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HER DARLING

—Photo: K. Chiniwalla.

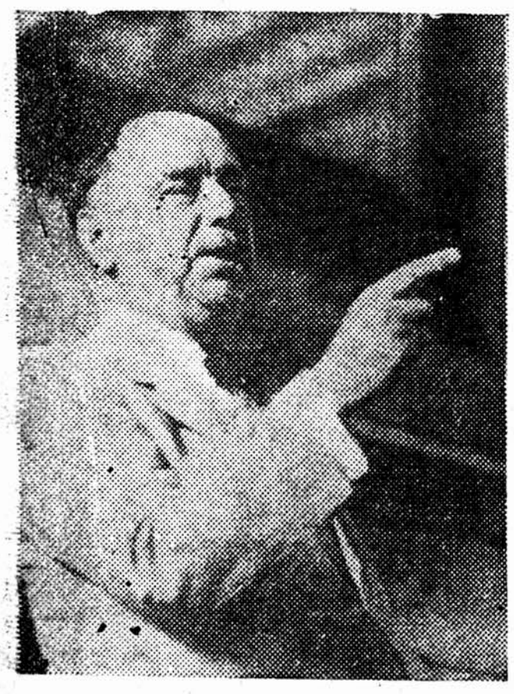
'WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!'

—See Page 2

H. G. Wells Debunks Dream Of Anglo-American Superiority And Gives The Slogan:

"WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!"

"The most reckless menace to the future peace of mankind".



"They speak for Governments rather than peoples."

"The ignorance, and the national and religious conceit, of the English-speaking peoples is bad enough...."

"..... but all the world over you will find parallel systems of ignorance and stupidity."

In this present crisis of human affairs our nominal leaders and rulers become more and more convulsively irresponsible. They rush about from conference to conference, they engender projects overnight. They suggest everything with brilliant incoherence, indifferent to that "Moving Finger" which writes irrevocable disaster upon their rash decisions from the very moment they are taken.

"...and having writ
Moves on, nor all your Piety and Wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line
Nor all your tears wash out a word of it."

In this tornado of thoughtless activity, the convulsive projection of the idea of a permanent alliance of the U.S.A. and the British collection of commonwealths, colonies and "possessions," as against the rest of the world, is perhaps the most reckless menace to the future peace of mankind that has yet appeared. Yet here we are discussing it! It marks the moral and intellectual level at which human affairs spin today. What is the good of disguising the fact that the mad dog of central Europe has made the whole world spasmodic? We are all on the jump except for the few of us who seem to have shinned up trees from which to shout hasty improvisations to the milling multitudes below.

This project of a standing alliance of the English-speaking (or English-ruled) peoples dates from the Conference at the Chateau Frontenac at Quebec a twelvemonth ago. On that giddy height our vehemently peripatetic war leaders paused for a brief interlude, surveyed the world saw interviewers, made speeches, and then rested for a few days fishing before returning to the muttering arena where questions and criticisms were accumulating.

"What We Have, We Hold"

They speak for governments rather than peoples. "What we have we hold." It is what is expected of a statesman. They think in terms of the militant 'sovereign state", though surely no man in his senses still believes that human affairs can be carried on now as a patchwork of more than half a hundred sovereign Powers' all actually at war or preparing for or recuperating from war. Our world is a world of human individuals, for the most part living in increasing fear and wretchedness and growing more and more desperate and more and more exasperated with these gentry up in the clouds. It is ripe for an amount of revolutionary reorganisation beyond all precedent. But these established authoritative people cannot and will not adjust themselves to that; they are too satisfied with the present order to accept new ideas. They will go on thinking in terms of mythical beings called "Powers" working through "Foreign Offices," until—which may not be very far off now—the crack of doom

An example of such backward thinking lies on my desk as I write. It is Walter Lippmann's "United States Foreign Policy." I have known Lippmann since, as a very youthful student, he worked with my old associate Graham Wallas at the London School of Economics, and I have followed his career pretty closely. He is careful and laborious, but he lacks the brutal vigour of a really original mind. I have never known any phase in his career when he was not under the spell of some mental influence stronger than his own. His book, so far as Russia goes, is dominated by Mr. DeWitt Clinton Poole's "Russia and the United States" (1941), and the mythology of sovereign "Powers" rules the discussion. These monsters pursue delusive "policies" and have imaginary 'interest' in conflict .They line up with "allies" group minor "Powers" together, in closest touch with the great banking and proprietary systems, Anglo-Saxon and Chinese chiefly, that are openly preparing to control and organise Chinese labour in a campaign of mutual sweating against Anglo-Saxon and European workers. These ideas seem to have been regarded as unchallengable verities at the Anglo-American conference. They are nothing of the sort. They are the dreams of sleep-walkers on the edge of an abyss.

Basic English

Coupled with such dreaming, in any survey of our present outlook is the recent discovery of the existence of 'Basic English' by patriotic Anglo-American publicists. They have yet to discover that Ogden and his associates have also experimented with Basic Italian, Basic Russian, and various other parallel Basics, and manifestly they think of it merely as a rapid way of putting over English as a world language But English, in spite of its atrocious spelling, has spead because it was a convenient language, giving access to modern science and a vast amount of native and translated literature. Directly it becomes a symbol of acquiescence in Anglo-American ascendency, it loses its impartiality. The motive behind his suggestion is plainly a part of this Anglo-American superiority dream. In more liberal phraseology, with a longer tradition of tolerance and fair dealing, its spirit is nevertheless Totalitarian—sub-Totalitarian if you like, but tarred with the same brush, the desire, in the name of one imperfect culture, to boss and exploit first its own working people and then as much of the rest of the world as it can label backward and inferior. It is an out of date dream doomed to failure, but to a failure so prolonged and extensive that the whole future of human hope may be dragged down in its collapse.

Certain facts have to be realised by mankind, and a vast mass of people in the world are unable to realise them, either because they are too old and set to change their ideas and expectations about life, or because—and this, I believe, is the case of a huge majority of the young—they are misinformed and kept from knowledge and clear thinking by those who have been entrusted with their upbringing. The political and religious prejudices into which they have grown have blinded them to the world's past and the history of other nations. The ignorance, and the national and religious conceit, of the English-speaking peoples, is bad enough, but all over the world you will find parallel systems of ignorance and stupidity. Islam, the Comintern, the various Christian orthodoxies, the financial mandarinate of China, Shinto and so forth, are all dark mental prisons into which the heirs to our world are thrust before they have a glimpse of daylight. Totalitarianism, Holism, the Herrenvolk delusion, is only the culminating expression of a widespread obscurantism, which is leading us all towards irrevocable disaster.

Against this, an awakening minority fights to establish certain facts before it is too late. The first fact is that "the world is now one" Boundaries are a thing of the past. People may cling to them stupidly, but they matter no more. This is as true of America and Russia as it is of such impracticably small countries as Holland. France and England Business cartels have long known this, Big Business finance has played upon it, but the masses of common people in the world have still to be awakened to this stupendous change in the conditions under which they live. They are unaware of the present possibility of release from frustration. And according to this dream of Anglo-America bossing the earth—for a dream it is, and a mean and ugly dream at that—these masses can still be set fighting and competing against each other in the sacred names of "patriotism", of 'our' "race superiority", of 'our' export trade, of 'our' religion, while finance and these old unteachable ruling classes of the world (who brought us to the slaughter of to-day) struggle to put back the clock ten years again and resume possession of a world that escapes from their control.

Russia, Hope For Masses!

That world is now one. It is confluent in spite of any effort to prevent its coming together. But if these belated dreamers can have their way, they will still attempt to split it in two and have an Anglo-American system of private appropriation, grabbing competition and subservient workers, carrying on side by side with the great Russian experiment in state capitalism, which, whatever its defects, and they are many, has at least shown up and shown out Big Business limitless appropriation and wide social inequality for ever more.

I have always been the candid friend of Russia. It is, as the intelligent reader may learn from the Webbs' great book, the first experiment in a socialist equalitarian civilisation, and all over the world its success has filled the toiling masses with hope and resolution. It has given them "ideas" from China to Peru, and all that this very deliberate attempt to split up the march of the forces of liberation can do, will be to suffuse a change-over that could be reasonable, considerate with very little killing in it, with rage and violence. Frustrated and angry men become very readily narrow, suspicious and vindictive men. I have made one or two successful warnings and prophecies in the past, and now, with the utmost conviction, I am hoisting the storm-cone.

Decline Of Atlantic World

But sane men will realise that nothing could be more foolish than to rush over to the other extreme and become blindly pro-Russian. Truth is multi-dimensional; there are more than two sides to every reality. The Western world is vacillating between illusions of superiority and the abject worship of alien dogmas that have been lit by a relative success. The Atlantic world has wasted a century of opportunity in intellectual slovenliness. It has indeed produced a vast galaxy of great scientific men, philosophers, artists explorers, but they have been disregarded under the heavy pressure of Victorian prosperity. That prosperity evaporates; it was never more than a counting-house prosperity. It never penetrated the slums. Its popular education was mean and abbreviated. America pre-occupied with business exploitation, and measuring success by the dollar standard, has left its education to the wealthy patron and politician. The Atlantic world

(Continued on Page 15)

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In England, As In India,

FEAR HAUNTS THE MINER'S LIFE!

By XENIA FIELD
(In "World Review")

It has begun to be talked of as 'that unhappy industry'. I should describe it differently—as the industry of fear. Fear permeating the very soul of each man—from King-pin to pit-boy—and all the grades that go between. Fear lurking in every plan, watering down every decision, worse still, clogging the machinery whilst it feverishly searches cover, or an alibi, in case the industry should be irritated further. History cannot be made this way.

Six months ago, I was dining with two friends. As I sat over the fire waiting for the 'all clear' I listened, half asleep to what they had to say about 'red tape' in the service—and then they turned to the coal question. They termed it a psychological problem—something queer that had developed and spread amongst the men. This was one point on which they agreed. It wasn't just the conditions or the wage—it was this peculiar thing....It was something else this time. Then they followed the view of some journalist who had written four articles for a daily paper. Obviously, he had been sent down to write so many words—'hot'—from South Wales. Canteens—baths—football matches. I knew the chorus as well as anyone else. I was tempted beyond endurance. I cut in. 'I suppose it wouldn't be possible to ask his wife what was wrong?' 'You awake? One man smiled indulgently—'Didn't know you had turned feminist.'

'Been seeing much of your friend Dr. Edith Summerskill?' asked the other. 'If I wanted to find out what was wrong, I should go to the miner's wife,' I said. 'And I should find out from her.'

There followed along argument. The 'all clear' went—and still we stayed.

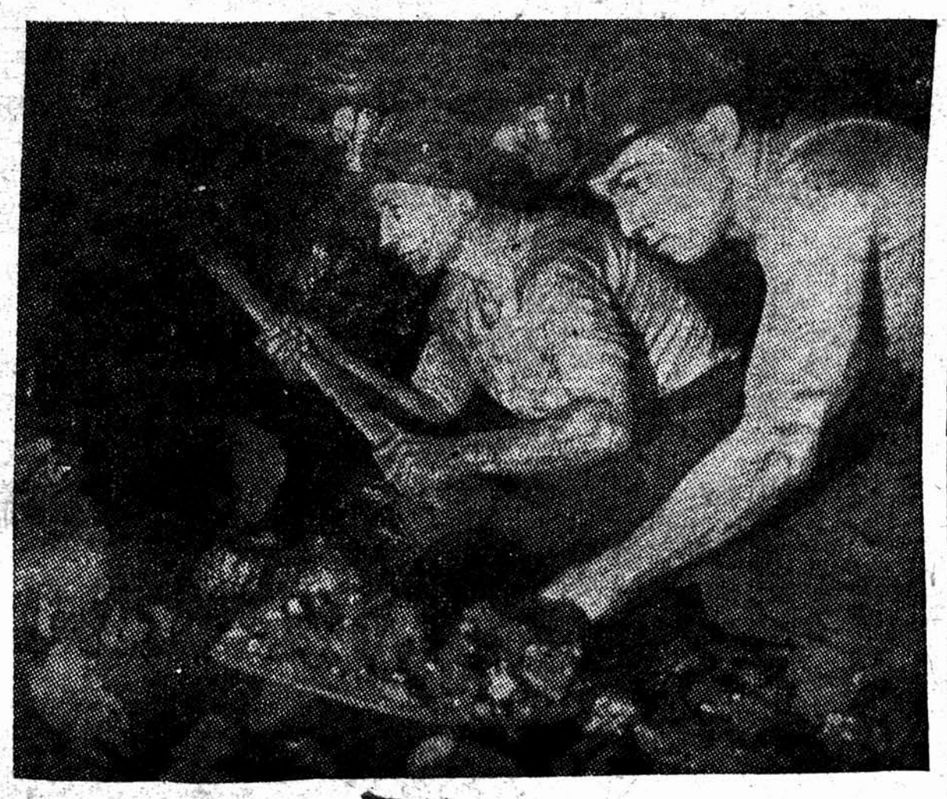
'It's a man's job. Women have nothing to do with it! For heaven's sake keep them out of it. There is enough trouble without them.' The familiar tale.

Nobody in his senses would wish to see women workers in the mining industry. But who take the force of the blow when the men 'come out'? Who suffered more acutely during those cruel years of lock-outs? Who shouldered the heaviest burden? It would be difficult to tell. Maybe it was the harder task to bear sorrow silently. A vivid picture, undimmed, will remain with those who have generosity of heart—of an anxious woman with her children round her. Years concerned with the ekeing out of food—and the clinging to life—patching, stitching, working her fingers to the bone—and yet still giving words of encouragement. Had she no place in the industry?

It was agreed, with certain reservations, that women had played a noble part in those grim days. 'But how could she come in on it today?' 'Make more use of her in such things as miners' welfare. Let her join in the improving of the industrial relationship of the miners. Let us have her view," I answered.

It seemed so clear to me. Why not interest miners' wives in the work of the pit? Miners' communities are in a great many cases isolated from the outside world, and working conditions in a pit have more influence on the home life of the worker than the working conditions in other industries. If industrial history is studied, it can be seen that women have played a constructive part in improving conditions. I have yet to hear of an industry that has suffered through the wives of the workers taking an intelligent interest in it.

I stood my ground—I held that the miner's wife was directly concerned. 'And how would you bring it about?' was the next question. 'By forming Committees of the miners' womenfolk. They are not without precedent. There are the Railway Women's Guild, and the I.C.I. (Imperial Chemical Industries) have fostered the formation of Wives' Committees for many years, and have found them exceedingly successful suggest that women welfare officers should be appointed by the Ministry of Fuel and Power, to assist the Labour Director in each region, with special functions to study the welfare and working conditions in the mines in relation to local circumstances, and that these women welfare officers should be given the duty of forming the Wives' Committees on a pit or area basis, as seems best, in the hope of securing the co-operation of the wives. The adoption of such a scheme by the Ministry of Fuel and Power as a measure for the furtherance of relationship at the mines might have a good psychological effect at the present moment. It might even prick 'the psychological problem bubble.'



"It's a man's job. Women have nothing to do with it! For heaven's sake keep them out of it."

This is what they think of mining, "the industry of fear", in Britain.

Yet the Government of India thinks it is safe enough to send down women into the mines!

The Miners' Wives Committees might start their career by acting as reception committees to the new entrants, the sixth form boys, and others, who are being directed to the pit by ballot. These young men will be in strange surroundings, and might well welcome a friendly gesture from the industry itself.

I had said enough. It was growing late. There was a little more banter about this new aspect. And then when it came to say goodnight, a solemn promise was extracted from me by one of my friends: that I would ring up the Ministry of Labour no later than the following morning and talk to somebody exactly as I had talked that evening. Did I know someone who would listen? Yes, I did. Right. It was a bargain.

I made my telephone call as I had said I would, and much to my gratification, I was given sympathetic attention. I was told that my scheme was entirely new. From then onwards I met all and sundry in the industry, and I was shuttled from one to the other in the painful atmosphere of fear. 'What would the men say? Wouldn't they object to the fact that their womenfolk were to be given this opportunity of making themselves more articulate?

'You mean', I asked, 'they may think that the powers that be, having failed in their appeal to the men for a greater output, were now appealing to the women?' Too obvious an argument for a defeatist to miss. Surely a time has been reached when both owners and workers would welcome a sound scheme which would improve relations between them. In Pittsburgh, I understand, the Women's Auxiliary of the American Steelworkers' Union was welcomed. The organisation I want started would have prevented the opening of many useless canteens, which the men have deliberately ignored. The women would have given the warning if consulted. They might even have put up a scheme for mobile canteens that might have won the sanction of the Ministry of Food—and pleased the men. Isn't it possible that women might have useful ideas of this kind? Who is more affected by the new feeding arrangement than she? And yet her opinion was never sought! And as to the shifts—sometimes she has had three menfolk on three different shifts, making life all work for her.

Then her moment came. There were those who would listen—her sons. The new pit-owner might rechristen the pit-boy a pit apprentice, but his mother's words, the advice that she had given him since he had been old enough to grasp anything—rang in his ears! 'You're not going down that pit.'

So the miner's wife, the mother, uninvited, had come into the final reckoning. The strike of strikes. The refusal to join the industry.

I return to my story. And before I complete it, I should mention the political side. A miner's wife may well be active in the Labour Party—or the Federation of Women's Institutes. Here she has been able to record her wishes as to whether she would like her new house, which is being planned for her, to have a bathroom on the ground or top floor, and so on, but hers are industrial economic questions—and should not be sidetracked as political issues. Every organisation is confident that they have catered for the miner's wife—and yet, what is being done? Hers are particular problems belonging to the industry alone.

I was discussing these facts lately with a miner, when I was being taken down to 'the face' at Gidney Pit, near Nottingham. 'The wife's the sheet-anchor to us miners. It's all struggle to her, he told me.

Yes, the risks to her man were greater in these days because the timber props were no longer what they were when we could get them from France. There were 100,000 injuries a year, six per cent of the total injuries of all industries. A thousand new cases of silicosis were reported yearly. The conveyor belts were no longer of pure rubber—and this meant yet more accidents. There were more risks of life everywhere. 'You can't blame the men for being a bit jumpy and touchy, can you?' asked my guide, then added, 'The wife, she gets all the anxiety. That's why I think she's got more right to more say than she gets—I'm all for her learning about things so that we can talk in the evenings. I'm too tired to go out much. I'm dead beat when I get back.'

'I remember that feeling', said Tom Smith, the Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Fuel and Power. 'I remember too, Tom', said Mr. Armstrong, the Labour Director.

'It's a man's job—getting the black diamonds. They have been bought', as Mr. Arthur Horner said, with the blood of the miner.' I would say—by the miner and his wife.

The water since then has been flowing under the bridge. In Yorkshire the Regional organisation is considering the appointment of a Reception Committee of women to welcome and help the new entrants to the industry in that area. This is but a beginning. Am I too optimistic in hoping that from this seed may grow an organisation which may enable women to play a still larger part in winning the war and in helping to create a happier atmosphere in their men's industry?

India's Common Language

"Urdu Or Hindustani Is Heritage Of Hindus And Muslims", Says Siddiqi

The following are extracts from the presidential address of Mr. Abdul Rehman Siddiqui, Editor, "Morning News", Calcutta, at the Sind Provincial Urdu Conference, held recently at Karachi:—

I have wandered over the world of Islam and in Europe for about twenty years. I have tried, in my own way, to study and understand the ways and means that have led to the advancement of the peoples inhabiting those regions. And the conclusion to which I have been led is that no nation can make any solid progress until public instruction has spread in it widely and universally and until every man and woman, boy and girl, in it has learnt to read and write. Along with it an essential and precedent condition to progress is the fact that the education so imparted should be given in the national language of the people which is also their mother tongue. Our misfortune in this country is that a non-Indian nation is ruling over us. To suit their convenience, our rulers have established a system of education which does not allow us to go forward on the road to progress. Avenues of advancement marching along which open up the remotest corners of human intelligence, bring out all that is best in man and develops the faculty and capacity to think, are closed to us.

Is it not painful for us to note that in forty years Japan emerged out of darkness and stood shoulder to shoulder with the most advanced nations of the world? Within twenty years of the Revolution of 1917, Russians, who were as ignorant and uneducated as ourselves, jumped forward at a bound and reached equality with England and America and on occasions have even left them behind? Turkey, Syria, Iraq and especially Egypt too have beaten us and are forging ahead continuously. The one reason which can account for this phenomenon is that instruction is imparted to the members of all these nations in their respective national languages. Against this universal law, almost a law of nature, the British Government in India started educating us in English and that pernicious system has continued till our own day. This wrong method has produced undoubtedly large, small and medium-sized Babus but, except for a few who can be counted on one's finger tips, it has failed to produce those men of light and learning who build and maintain nations.

Common Language

Another aspect of the problem, is as important and necessary as the eradication of the system of education now prevalent and its replacement by one accepted by the world at large, consisting of benefits I have indicated earlier. Whenever India attains freedom, whether it is partitioned or remains one geographically, the country can make no progress of a true and enduring character until it adopts a common language. India has been divided into two well-known sections for centuries past. In one of these generally called Hindustan, the people speak languages derived from the parent Aryan stock while in the second, called the Deccan, Dravida languages are spoken. These two families of languages never became amalgamated. That was the main and principal reason why the populations in the North and in the South evolved in both parts, a new and common language which has been called variously Hindu, Hindi, Urdu, Dakhani and Hindustani. The first condition of the efforts that are being made in the country for its liberation, is and should be that instead of English the national language should be one which is native to the soil. Free India and its four hundred million inhabitants will remain slaves intellectually if they accept a foreign tongue as their language of intellectual, commercial and political intercourse. Intellectual slavery is worse and more ruinous than political subjection.

The question we have to decide is which, among the many languages prevalent in India, possesses the best right to be adopted as the national language of the country? There is only one answer—URDU. If anybody does not like this name, I am willing to call it Hindustani. At the One Language Conference, held in Indore, during the war of 1914-18, Mahatma Gandhi and Maharaj Tilak had accepted this same language as our national medium of expression. After that, in this beautiful city of yours, the Indian National Congress had confirmed that decision in full and open session in 1930. That decision without doubt was unanimous and correct. No other decision could be made except the one that was made.

Every man of commonsense with a little thinking capacity can see for himself that Urdu is the mother tongue of millions of Hindus and Muslims and every inhabitant of the land can speak and understand it. The sovereignty of this language alone extends from Kashmir to Cape Comorin and from the borders of Sind to the confines of China. To deny this is as serious a mistake, even crime, as it would be to put obstacles in the way of our battle for freedom. Let India alone, those who speak and understand Urdu are to be found in every large and small seaport on the long coast-line of western and southern Asia from Port Said to Shanghai. Hundreds of Urdu-knowing people are again to be found in Jerusalem, Cairo, Alexandria, Makka, Madina, Baghdad and on both sides of the Persian Gulf. Let Asia also alone. The sway of Urdu has enveloped the whole globe of our small planet. During the twenty-four hours of the day, among Indian languages, we hear nothing but Urdu in the ether. Urdu has spread itself over the earth and over the heavens. London, Berlin and Ankara, on one side and Tokio, Saigon and Singapore on the other, use Urdu as their medium to win the hearts of the people of India. Not to acknowledge Urdu even after this as an international language is a clear mistake and a definite injustice. Whether you write it in Arabic script or in Devnagari, whether you mix with it Arabic, Persian and Turkish words or Sanskrit and Prakrit or even English, French Spanish or Portuguese, the language is one and will always remain so. The admixture of these foreign words into it is a proof of its popularity and universality.

We have no quarrel with the well-wishers of Hindi neither do we entertain any sentiments of rivalry against the members of the Nagri Pracharini Sabha. We have no bone to pick with Gandhiji if he calls it Hindi 'athwa' Hindustani or with the Bihar Government Committee and the Allahabad Academy if they choose to call it Hindustani. If there can be any complaint and, as a matter of fact there is one, it is this that some of our compatriots, flushed and intoxicated with their wealth and majorities and for political reasons desire to make a language, found only in books, the national language of the country. This language is not a spoken tongue and the worst of it is that educated Hindus and Muslims do not understand it. I have already stated that opposition to Urdu is a fruitless job. It has gone so far ahead that to crush it or to push it back is not worth either the effort or the trouble.

Provincial Languages

It should not be understood that the acknowledgment and establishment of Urdu as the national language of India signifies in any manner whatsoever indifference or apathy towards the other great languages of India. Sindhi, Gujrati, Marathi, Bengali and in the Deccan Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam and Canarese possess great treasures of knowledge in them. These languages have rendered valuable service in the spheres of their influence from ancient times till our own. Their development and improvement are as essential as those of Urdu. Their influence on Urdu and the influence of Urdu on them will be advantageous rather than otherwise. This is not the occasion to talk politics but it will not be out of place to state that in the efforts made by our leaders for a settlement of Hindu-Muslim differences during the last thirty or thirty-five years, had they tried to build on the fundamental principle of one language, it is not difficult to imagine that they might have achieved success. The greatest mistake on the part of our political leaders was that they ignored Urdu which was the result of the joint and united effort of the Hindus and Muslims and through which Hindu and Muslim thinkers thought alike for many hundred years and an intellectual affinity was created. Instead, they tried to raise the structure of their national edifice on the speeches of John Bright and Gladstone. In the end they had to face defeat and failure. Had they widened their vision and sought friendship and brotherhood under the aegis of Urdu, we would not have come to the present pass and we would not have been compelled to pass through these awful times. I hope and pray that the coverings over their eyes will be removed soon and that they will achieve oneness in politics through oneness in language. This is the right method and this alone is the straight path.

Delicacies Of Language

It is necessary to answer a criticism generally levelled against Urdu these days. The technique adopted is to draw attention to the Persian and Arabic words found in Urdu and then to make fun of it. It will be obvious, on little thought, that language is not only a vehicle for the conveyances of ideas from one person to another but progress, civilization and culture demand that there shall be elasticity, beauty and sweetness also in its modes of expression. BAITHO is quite right and correct but BAITHIEY gives distinction to it. TASHREEF RAKHIEY, however, at once raises the cultural standard of the speaker as well as his listener. Similarly, TUMHARA NAAM KYA HAI does express the meaning of the utterer but JANAB KA ISMI SHAREEF changes the colour of the whole world of the parties to the conversation. If these delicacies of the language are discarded not only the delight of conversation disappears but life itself becomes drab and colourless. Thousands of Urdu, Arabic and Persian words have so infiltrated into Sindhi, Gujarati, Marathi and Bengali that if they are now removed these languages will become poor and destitute. I do not deny the existence of a set of men who, to impress people with their learning and erudition use heavy Arabic, Persian and Sanskrit words where easy and homely words can be used. Their number is small and it is getting smaller and smaller. To condemn a language on this score and to demand the removal of words from it which give it a literary status is to ruin it completely.

These objections are the outcome of the poisonous atmosphere now obtaining in the country. Friendly criticism is welcome but denunciation of Urdu and the effort to ruin it are altogether a different proposition. The Anjuman-e-Taraqqi-e-Urdu has conducted its affairs under the joint and united effort of Hindus and Muslims and with their consultation and consent. The Right Hon'ble Dr. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru is its President and Pandit Brij Mohan Dattatriya is the right hand of our Maulana. Despite these glaring facts critics denounce Urdu by calling it the language of Muslims. Fanaticism, be it religious or political, makes men blind. These friends conveniently forget that there are millions of non-Muslims living mostly in northern India whose mother tongue is as much Urdu as that of the Muslims. Hindus and Muslims evolved and developed this language jointly. Hindus and Muslims were and are partners of an equal degree in the universal popularity it gained in the past and holds in the present. I feel fully confident that in making Urdu our national tongue and in securing for it a still wider international position, the two peoples will make equal effort and evince equal enthusiasm. If some of our compatriots, influenced by political fanaticism, have become the enemies of Urdu and want to remove it from the face of the earth, we have to double and redouble our part of the work. Sooner or later, they will realise their mistake and come back to us. If the task before us is laudable and if the secret of our national advancement is hidden in it, we must go forward and onward without fear and with full courage and determination. If one brother has become angry temporarily and refuses to co-operate with us, then for his and our own betterment we should not allow any lethargy, weakness or lessening in our effort. If we were to entertain even for a moment their charge that Urdu is the language of the Muslims even then for the sake of the hundred million Muslims of India and having regard to their connections all over the continent of Asia, to give up Urdu on any account whatsoever will be equivalent to act as enemies of India itself. Our historical traditions and social life are bound up with it intimately. Joint service of Urdu is better and of greater advantage else we shall have to carry this responsibility on our own shoulders. We are ready for it heart and soul and we are ready to sacrifice our all in the achievement of that object. Raise your determinations high and carry your steps forwards and onwards.

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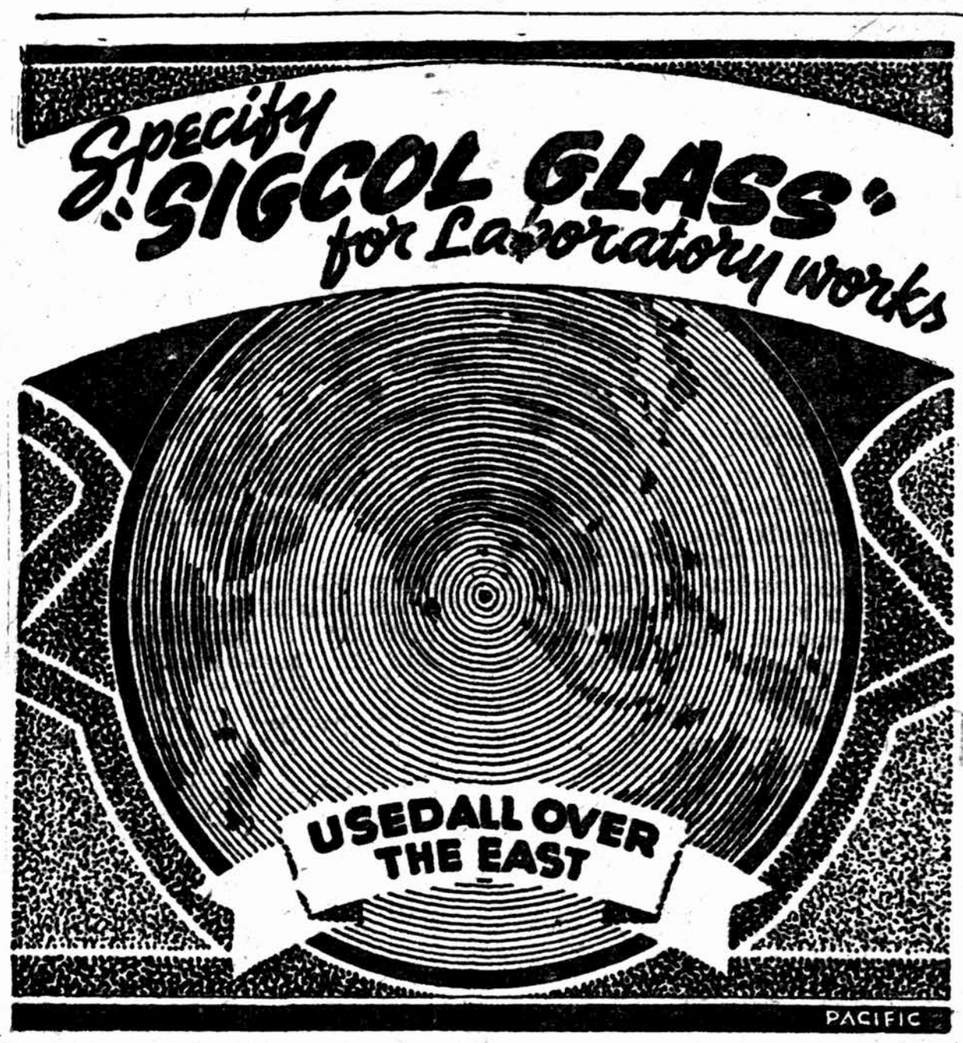

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'No Justification For Allied Uneasiness'

Mountbatten On Situation In Assam And Burma

Outcome Of Present Operations Will Be Successful He Assures

"S.E.A.C." Hqs., KANDY, (Ceylon) April 29:

The declaration that there is every reason to believe that the outcome of the present Allied operations in Burma will be successful was contained in an official statement issued from Admiral Mountbatten's Headquarters to-day.

The statement said, "In considering the Allied campaign in Burma it must be remembered that the front stretches 800 miles from Arakan through the Chindwin and Hukawng Valleys to Yunnan. It is a dense jungle country and conditions make it impossible with the number of troops available to prevent the enemy with interior lines of communications and with the minimum of maintenance requirements from undertaking deep penetrations. We ourselves have effected much deeper penetrations in another way by the use of airborne forces.

ON IMPHAL FRONT

The penetration recently effected by the Japanese on the Imphal front was not unexpected and its aim was partly for the value of political propaganda. The Allied operations are taking the form of initially locating and pinning down the Japanese and preventing them from gaining full use of the roads thereby making it difficult for them to bring up heavy war equipment and motor transport. Later, we intend to attack and destroy the enemy.

Owing to the nature of the terrain and the difficulty of definitely locating the Japanese, it is unlikely that the battle will be brought to a successful conclusion for several weeks. There are already indications that the Japanese are finding it difficult to live off the country. Meanwhile, Allied forces have cut Japanese communications in the heart of Burma.

INCREASE IN JAP STRENGTH

It is difficult yet to predict how the Japanese offensive will react to future operations in Burma. If as is confidently expected our counter-offensive leads to the liquidation of the Japanese divisions at present in action, our prospects 'visa vis' Burma will be enhanced. Major operations will be restricted when the monsoon starts, but the important object of advancing the Ledo Road will be pursued relentlessly. Since the formation of the South-East Asia Command, Japanese strength in this theatre has increased considerably. The enemy has strong land forces in Burma—stronger than the general public generally thinks and since they have the advantage of interior lines of communication, we must always expect some offensive action on their part on one or other sectors of the front.

Hard fighting lies before us in Burma. The true picture is not hidden and there is every reason to believe that the outcome of the present Allied operations will be successful."

"NO JUSTIFICATION FOR UNEASINESS"

The statement followed a request by an American agency for specific answers to six questions. The agency added "the lack of an authoritative statement on the Assam situation is creating in America uneasiness and the feelig that the true picture is being withheld".

The reply states "there is no justification for such uneasiness and as far as military security permits, here are the answers to the questions:—

Q—'Has the Allied strategic schedule been seriously dislocated by the Japanese Manipur advance?'

A.—'The Allied strategic schedule has not been dislocated by the Japanese offensive'

Q.—'Has the completion of the China Road been delayed?'

A.—'No. The Japanese thrust at Imphal has caused no delay in the progress of the Ledo road. To date, the reverse has taken place. Had the Japanese concentrated against the Chinese army on the Ledo front instead of the British Fourth Corps at Imphal, the Chinese advance towards Myitkyina could not have progressed as far as it has done'.

Q.—'Is the threat greater to the Allies than the threat to the Japanese of the Allied drive towards Myitkyina?'.

A.—'To compare threat is misleading. It is impossible to compare the relative degree of threat based on an operational strategy with one based on a long-range strategy'.

Q.—'Will this force a postponement of large-scale land operations beyond next autumn?'.

A.—'For security reasons a direct answer cannot be given'.

Q.—'Will the supply of the Allied forces behind the Japanese lines be hampered?'.

A.—'No. The airfields from which aircraft supply these forces are firmly in our hands and we have air superiority'.

Q.—'Supposing the Assam lines of communication are cut would that compel a withdrawal of these troops?"

A.—'No'—A. P.

HEAVY FIGHTING IN KOHIMA AREA

From D. R. Mankekar, A.P.I. War Correspondent at Headquarters of the 14th Army:—

Heavy fighting has again broken out in the Kohima area in the village proper round the District Commissioner's bungalow.

A strong Japanese force is firmly established on a high ground in the township. Our position however daily grows better round the ridge in the battered red-roofed residential area close to the District Commissioner's bungalow from which the Inner Kohima garrison were relieved several days ago. The Japanese still hold the Naga village on the ridge a mile to the east of our most southerly positions despite merciless bombardment by air and massed artillery that is directed against them there. This appears to be yet another desperate bid for Kohima, a most important strategic point on the Manipur road, being the second highest ridge which the Manipur road crosses between Dimapur and Imphal—the highest is 18 miles further south at Mao, also held by the Japanese.

North of Imphal, our operations are continuing, pushing the enemy backward up the Manipur road. North-east of Imphal along the Ukhrul Road we are now hardly five miles from Ukhrul itself which is the terminus of the road, having retaken Lamu 32 miles from Imphal.

South and south-east of Imphal, the Japanese are still continuing "blind" fighting—blind because their plans have been foiled by us and the Japanese are just fighting on. The enemy is now 23 miles down Imphal on the Tiddim road, just on the fringe of the Imphal plain, fighting at Morane. The enemy seems to be making good use of the Tiddim road to carry his supplies from his bases in Kalewa and Kalemyo round Imphal to the north. The R.A.F. has however been hammering at Jap supply columns on this road. South-east of Imphal on Tammu road the Japanese are fighting in the Tengnoupol area about 35 miles from Imphal.

West of Imphal along the Bishenpore-Silchar track, heavy fighting continues in the Kongpi area 80 miles from Imphal.

"SUCCESSFUL ALLIED ATTACK AT KOHIMA"

Kandy (Ceylon), S.E.A.C. Headquarters, April 29.

To-day's 'communique' from Admiral Mountbatten's headquarters says that following a successful allied attack at Kohima the liquidation of the remaining Japanese strongpoints is being continued. "South-East of Kohima our troops continue to advance", the 'communique' added.

R.A.F. and I.A.F. fighter-bombers and dive-bombers attacked Japanese positions, camps and storage dumps in Buthidaung, the Mayu River, Kohima and Imphal areas. Dumps at Myitkyina, Mohnyin and Mogaung were also attacked. Large fires covered the target areas.

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STOP PRESS

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LATEST FROM AGA KHAN PALACE

POONA, April 29: It is understood that Mr. K. T. Gajjar, a blood expert from Bombay, visited the Aga Khan's Palace to-day.

Dr. B. C. Roy is arriving here tomorrow morning and it is likely that he may see Gandhiji.

Mr. Shantikumar Morarjee and Swami Anand have arrived here.—United Press.

RAJAJI CLARIFIES HIS VIEWS ON PAKISTAN

Reply To Colombo Reception: "Indo-Ceylon Differences Very Shallow And Bound To Disappear"

COLOMBO, April 28

Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar, former Prime Minister of Madras, arrived in Colombo this afternoon by air and within an hour was fulfilling the first of a crowded programme of engagements which he is scheduled to go through before returning on May 2. This was a public reception at Colombo Town Hall, where those gathered to welcome him included three Ceylon ministers, Mr. R. D. Bandaranaike, Mr. George De Silva and Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara.

Mr. Abdul Aziz, President of the Ceylon Indian Congress presiding welcomed Mr. Rajagopalachariar as one of the greatest sons of India. Sir Ratnajoti Sarvanamutu described him as a great leader. Mr. Siripala Samarakkody, President, Ceylon National Congress welcoming him on behalf of the Congress described him as one of the greatest nationalists of India.

Mr. Bandaranaike, President of Sinhala Maha Sabha paid a tribute to Mr. Rajagopalachari's courage and praised his sincerity, self-sacrifice deep learning and wisdom.

RAJAJI'S REPLY

In his reply Mr. Rajagopalachari expressed sincere thanks for the very affectionate welcome extended to him. He said that references had been made by speakers to his attitude on the question of Pakistan but he did not wish to enter into any discussion on the subject except to say that all he sought was "we should make our arrangements on the basis of consent and not on the basis of force whether real or assumed.

INDO-CEYLON PROBLEM

Referring to Indo-Ceylon problems, he said as he was flying over Palk Strait he got the impression that this small stretch of sea separating Ceylon and India should be very shallow indeed. "The differences between India and Ceylon are as shallow as the sea that separates the two countries" he declared amidst cheers. He added that the days of independence and isolation were gone. In the New Order of things emerging now no countries, least of all India and Ceylon, could be independent of each other. They were very much dependent on each other and so all past differences were bound to disappear.

On behalf of the Sindhi Merchants Association a purse of Rs. 2,235 was presented to Mr. Rajagopalachari towards the Kasturba Memorial Fund.

He took opportunity of his first public utterance in Ceylon to make an appeal for contributions to this fund. —A. P.

BATTLE FOR RUMANIA ENTERS NEW PHASE

MOSCOW, April 28.

Soviet forces storming across the River Pruth at a new point in a face of fierce German crossfire from armoured capolas, have opened another phase in the Battle for Rumania, cables Reuter's Staff Correspondent in Moscow.

Latest front line reports indicate that a new bridgehead is below Jassy and the operation appears to be on a considerable scale.

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Allied Offensive In Balkans Imminent?

ZURICH, April 29.

The German High Command believes that an Allied offensive in the Balkans is imminent, according to reports reaching here today.

The reports add that largescale Anglo-American troops concentrations have been observed in the Near East and that the British Mediterranean Fleet is now cruising off the Greek coast.—Reuter.

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GANDHIJI BETTER

BOMBAY, April 29.

A Bombay Government communique says:—

"Mr. Gandhi was examined today by Major-General Candy I.M.S. Surgeon-General to the Government of Bombay. His report shows that Mr. Gandhi's condition has shown a fair degree of improvement since yesterday.

As a result of his recent attack of malaria he has still a considerable degree of anaemia and his blood pressure recently reached very low levels but since yesterday they have improved substantially. He is in good spirits. He has been advised to take more nourishment and tonics."—A.P.

AMERY ON INDIA'S IMMENSE FUTURE"!

"Going To Be Great Country In Many Ways"

BIRMINGHAM, April 29.

The Secretary for India, Mr. L. S. Amery, said at Birmingham today that there was no reason for pessimism in the Indian outlook. India had an immense future before her. Britain had laid very sound foundations of unity, law and of railways and irrigation. India had an immense contribution through her industries to the war effort. She was going to be a great industrial country and a great country in many ways. She had a wonderful history in culture and literature and she was, he believed, capable of taking on a new lease of life and new inspiration in the world of the future. He did not believe that the development of India's growth of self-contained independence was going in any way to weaken the real ties that would bind India to this country and to other members of Commonwealth. He was convicted that there was an underlying bond of goodwill, unity of outlook and ideals that would surely keep all members of the Commonwealth together in the years to come.—Reuter.

"RELEASE GANDHIJI FORTHWITH"

LONDON, April 29.

The Indian Freedom Campaign has sent a letter to Mr. Amery asking for Mahatma Gandhi's immediate release in view of his continued ill-health.—Reuter.

Amery's Statement Indicates It

MADRAS, April 29: Writing editorially under caption "release Gandhiji", the "Hindu" says "without going into the question of the casualness not to say indifference with which the Government have been treating the cases of the nation's accredited leaders whose indefinite incarceration is inevitably telling on their health we would reiterate the demand, (which we made along with practically the whole of the Indian press at the time news of his illness was announced) that Gandhiji should be released at once. Is it too much to see in Mr. Amery's statement in connection with this demand, referred to by us earlier, an indication that he would be willing to release Gandhiji on grounds of illness?"—A. P.

British submarines during recent patrols in Northern waters sank a medium sized tanker and so severely damaged a large tanker and a large supply ship that they probably sank, states the Admiralty 'communique' today.—Reuter.

10 THOUSAND CRORE PLAN X-RAYED

Hitler To Start Peace Negotiations?

Papen To Handle Mission Through Intercession Of Turkey

ZURICH, April 29.

Reports reaching a well informed diplomatic source in Switzerland today state that the German Ambassador to Turkey, Von Papen, will be selected by Hitler for the delicate mission of initiating peace negotiations with the Allies through the medium of Turkey.

Von Papen is now expected at Hitler's headquarters but intends to return to his post in Ankara as soon as possible.

The same reports state that the German Ambassador in Madrid is to receive similar instructions from Hitler. There is no confirmation of these reports from any other source, and Reuter adds that they should be treated with reserve.

MARATHI STAGE CENTENARY

Fortnight-Long Celebration Concludes Before Audience Of 7,000

A happy and successful termination of the Marathi Stage Centenary which was celebrated in Bombay in a huge open-air-"Opera-House" specially constructed to accommodate thousands of people took place on Thursday night with Mr. Bal Gandharva in the chair.

"Dramatists should serve the stage first and the screen afterwards, if you want the Marathi stage to exist" observed Mr. N. S. Rajhansa alias Bal Gandharva in his presidential speech addressing a huge crowd of over 7,000 people who had gathered there every day on admiration of the Marathi stage.

Actresses should also co-operate in the revival and reform of the stage, was one point of importance on which the president laid special stress. He expressed deep gratitude for the public support the Marathi stage had the privilege to enjoy for the last hundred years, and wished unlimited flow of that generosity to continue till eternity.

Earlier Mr. P. K. Atre observed: "It's a sight for the gods to see" describing the historic and unprecedented aspects of the function.

"The Marathi stage is not dead but very much alive and kicking" concluded Mr. Atre.

It was celebrated under the auspices of the Mumbai Marathi Sahitya Sangh, and the proceeds are earmarked for a new ideal and huge drama theatre for Bombay.

Sunday Morning Shows

Strand: Walt Disney's 11 cartoons in technicolour at 10-30 a.m.

Regal: "Reap the Wild Wind" at 10-30 a.m.

Eros: "Marriage on Ice" at 10 a.m.

Metro: "Remember" at 10 a.m.

Palace: "Marie Walewska" at 10-30 a.m.

Aurora: "Boom Town" at 10-30 a.m.

Textile Control Prices

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A press note issued by the Textile Commissioner says:—

Owing to practical difficulties it has not been possible to fix and notify the control prices for cotton cloth manufactured by those possessing 25 or more powerlooms and it has been decided to extend the exemption from price stamping until 1st June 1944 or such later date as may be notified by the Textile Commissioner.

It will be recalled that the Textile Commissioner announced on the 18th of February that manufacturers who possessed 25 powerlooms or more on the 1st of January, 1944 would be required to stamp their products with prices with effect from the 1st of May.—A. P.

GOVERNOR OPENS T. B. WARD IN BYCULLA

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The new tuberculosis ward at the Masina Hospital, Byculla, was declared open by the Governor of Bombay, Sir John Colville before a large gathering on Friday evening. In doing so His Excellency remarked that the movement to fight tuberculosis had become a strong force in India

He added that tuberculosis was a deadly disease, and the huge toll of life it took was next only to Malaria. He believed that in early detection of the disease lay its early cure. Though the number of tuberculosis clinics was on the increase, yet it was not sufficient to meet the needs of the country's growing population.

Proceeding the Governor congratulated Dr. Masina on his splendid achievements as a pioneer

Dr. H. L. Masina, Principal Medical Officer welcoming the guests said that the hospital was meant for people of all castes and not for Parsis only, as was the general impression of the public.

Sir Chimanlal Setalwad proposed a vote of thanks to the Governor

Attempt To Preserve Economic "Status Quo"

IT WILL NOT IMPROVE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF MASSES, SAYS PROF. WADIA

PROF. P. A. WADIA AND MR. K. T. MERCHANT WRITE:—

THIS ARTICLE ON THE 10 THOUSAND CRORES PLAN WORKED OUT IN OUTLINE BY SIX OF OUR LEADING CAPITALISTS AND INDUSTRIALISTS WAS OFFERED IN THE FIRST INSTANCE FOR PUBLICATION TO 'COMMERCE' AND TO THE 'EASTERN ECONOMIST'. THE FIRST RETURNED IT TO US EXPRESSING REGRET AT THEIR INABILITY TO PUBLISH IT. 'THE EASTERN ECONOMIST' MERELY SENT IT BACK WITHOUT ANY WORD. WE CAN UNDERSTAND THE CONSIDERATIONS THAT MUST HAVE LED THEM TO REFUSE TO PUBLISH AN ARTICLE WHICH IS A BASIC CRITICISM OF CAPITALISM. NOT ONLY IN THIS COUNTRY, BUT EVERYWHERE THE VESTED INTERESTS DICTATE THE SAME POLICY OF SUPPRESSION OF HONEST CRITICISM. OUR ONLY HOPE IS THAT THE LARGER PUBLIC PRESS WILL GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS CONVICTIONS AND OPINIONS WHICH HAVE NO MOTIVE BEHIND THEM EXCEPT TO SEARCH FOR TRUTH. 4

We propose, in the following lines, to examine the 10,000 crores plan in the setting of the new trends that have been developing between the two world wars and especially during the present war and the possible trend in the post-war period. It is essentially an 'ideological interpretation' of the plan, put forward by our leading industrial and financial magnates, without any idea of attributing any personal motives to particular individuals. We merely try to point out that the laws of capitalist development are the same everywhere, irrespective of the colour of the individual capitalists.

Our country has had before it for some time past a plan for the economic development of India prepared by eight leading representatives of finance, capital and industry. The authors of this plan urge that they are only putting forward the outlines of a plan for doubling the present 'per capita' income within a period of fifteen years from the time that the plan comes into operation. In view of the radical changes in the economic life of the country which are likely to follow the close of the War, they feel that, as industrialists and financiers, they should not be behind hand in playing their part in the new economic development; and whilst, on the one hand, they appeal to the country as the friends of a National Government working in the interests of a poverty-stricken population, on the other hand, there has been no place in this brochure where any slightest reference is made to the control of profits and the organisation of agriculture and industries on a socialist basis so as to remove the possibility of the exploitation of the masses. If economic life will have to be rigorously controlled under the plan, the authors are careful enough to point out that such control of "individual liberty and freedom of enterprise" will have to be only temporary and provisional. They contemplate the possibility of raising the necessary finance for their plan by "private voluntary investments." "The free choice of consumers in respect of consumption goods should suffer no restriction," as far as this can be assured under a system of planning.

In short, the scheme presented to us by our industrialists is a scheme that contemplates the permanence of a capitalist order and organisation. It is to be worked out by a National Government that will have the support and co-operation of our industrialists and businessmen. It is only the "extent" to which capitalist methods of production will be employed which is left undetermined in the plan.

In judging the merits of the plan placed before us, we have to view it in its relation not only to the trend of economic development of our own country in the past, but also in relation to the development of economic forces in the international sphere. As we have pointed out elsewhere, "Nineteenth century liberalism was an attempt to develop an economic organisation based on the absence of government interference. Enlightened self-interest, working under a system of free competition was supposed to bring plenty for all, to benefit the consumer by the lowering of costs, and to secure increasing satisfaction of all human wants. Government control was deemed superfluous, if not injurious"*

CAPITALISM TO REMAIN

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, however, private enterprise was subjected to a radical change as the result of a new technical revolution. The growth in the scale of business organisation weakened the power of the consumer and destroyed the theoretical foundations of 'laissez faire' doctrine. But 'laissez faire' has still a considerable following. The very basis, as it is, of nineteenth century industrialism—all the forces of economic conservatism—are ranged on its side. Its prestige and vitality, however, were seriously undermined by the War of 1914. In the first place, the war brought about a phenomenal increase in the degree and extent of combination among producers and, consequently, in the regulation of industry. In the second place, the growth of economic nationalism led to the linking up of industry with the national State. The use of political power for economic purposes involves the final abandonment of individualism and 'laissez faire.' No one can defend to-day unregulated competition as an ideal.

While individualism and 'laissez faire' thus came to be abandoned capitalism still retained its vitality. In spite of mass unemployment, stagnation in investment, the depression of the thirties—all alike the symptoms of the break-up of a world-wide economic system—capitalism still seeks for a new lease of life by an 'entente cordiale' between the men in political power and the industrialists—by a trend of amalgam of collectivism and capitalism, under which the State still provides a "fair" return to the business men, running with their help the entire productive machinery for the benefit of the Nazi or Fascist rulers and the capitalists. The mass of the workers get enough to keep them on their feet at the machines; they are chained to the machine for the benefit of the capitalist and the militarist and the man in political power. Both Nazism and Fascism may be characterised as capitalist collectivism, under which rent, interest, and profits are retained, along with capitalist property laws and capitalist exploitation.

NO RADICAL DEPARTURE

For the first time, however, in the history of the world, an experiment in collective ownership of a different kind is being conducted on a large scale in the U.S.S.R. The general results so far achieved in that country have profoundly affected the thinking of people in other countries and have raised questions of valuation with regard to planning. The thinking portion of humanity to-day is faced with the question of a choice between Fascism or State capitalism and a Democratic Collectivism which undertakes to subordinate the machine to the human being for the creation of a civilised existence for all men. Such Democratic Collectivism, while it involves the formulation of plans by a small group of experts, implies that the plans will be ratified by democratic methods, and, if they are not acceptable to the masses, there has to be machinery for rejecting or modifying them. Democratic Collectivism, in other words, implies the participation of the people in economic as well as political decisions.

In the light of these observations, we ask ourselves the question: "What does this plan of economic development for India adumbrated by our industrialists and business men aim at?" Economic difficulties, starting from 1919 and intensified since the persistent spread of unemployment from 1929, have so strengthened criticism and confirmed doubts about the adequacy of capitalism that the idea of a planned economy has caught on in every country of the world in different ways. National economic planning may mean anything from the introduction of limited plans of limited fields to the complete transformation of the entire economic structure upon a socialist basis.

It is obvious that our industrialists, while they tell us that they aim at bringing about a doubling of the present 'per capita' income within a period of fifteen years from the time the plan comes into operation, presuppose the continuance of the present capitalist order and do not anticipate 'any radical departure' from the methods of production and distribution characteristic of the present economic organisation. "Neither the problem of distribution, which is vital to any scheme for raising the standard of living, nor the allied question of the control to be exercised by the State over economic activities are discussed in it" At the same time, they inform us that their scheme is based on the assumption that, on the termination of the war, a National Government will come into existence at the centre "vested with full freedom in economic matters." They contemplate the formation of a National Planning Committee in which the various interests concerned will be represented, and to which the responsibility for drawing up plans will be delegated. The execution of the plans will be left to a Supreme Economic Council. They fail to inform us, however, if the interests of the consumers are to be represented in the Planning Committee and the Council. Their reference to individual liberty and freedom of enterprise would imply a capitalist order in which the financiers and business men and industrialists would join hands with a National Government for the intensification of production which would give reasonable scope for the play of the profit motive.

May we suggest that this plan definitely rejects the idea of the control of the economic organisation in the interests of the consumers on a socialist basis, and only contemplates planning within the present economic structure? So long as the profit motive functions in a capitalist structure, the possibility of periodic crises and chronic unemployment cannot be overcome. Nowhere in the present scheme do we find a reference to this inherent weakness of a capitalist order. Attempts at the regulation of one part of the economic structure may serve to sharpen the conflicts of competition in the structure as a whole.

NO RADICAL IMPROVEMENT POSSIBLE

If we look at the politico-economic situation as it faces us in India to-day, we find that the direction of the entire economic system is in the hands of irresponsible government. The capitalists and industrialists and businessmen cannot relinquish altogether the prospects of future control of the economic machinery by allying themselves with the present government. They, therefore, clamour against the government, and denounce it to-day as standing in the way of industrial development. But they are concerned primarily with earning their dividends, and their plea for a National Government might ultimately turn out to be a plea for a Government of a bourgeous type ready to increase the productive output and intensify the productive drive, regardless of the ways in which the increased wealth of the country may be distributed. We do not want a capitalism that will be satisfied with State control of a few industries. Such an eventuality would be tantamount to a real postponement of socio-economic reconstruction. It may give increased employment to those who are unemployed, especially the intelligentsia, and keep them reconciled to their lot by the "bread and circuses" which capitalism can provide, and stave off the liquidation of the capitalist order. But we have not sufficient justification in the proposals placed before us in the present plan for the belief that they will bring about a radical improvement in the economic condition of the masses in India.

*"Our Economic Problem" p. 1.

(To Be Continued)

POST-WAR PLANNERS FOR ENGLAND

NEW DELHI, April 29

It is learnt that nine leading Indian industrialists are likely to leave shortly for the United Kingdom for discussion with representatives of British Industry in connection mainly with a capital goods required for post-war industrial development in India.

Among the Indian Delegation will be Mr. J. R. D. Tata, Mr. G. D. Birla, Sir Sultan Chinoy, Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai and Sir Padampat Singhania.—A. P.

Revolutionary Attempt In Bolivia Put Down

NEW YORK, April 29: A cable to the 'Associated Press' from Lapaz (Bolivia) to-night (Friday) said the Revolutionary Attempt had been put down and Martial Law declared. No details were given in the unsigned few word message which was in Spanish language.—Reuter.

Rao Saheb Gokhale Dead

HUBLI, April 27.

The death took place of Rao Saheb Govindrao Gokhale at Gadag this afternoon at the age of 70.

Rao Saheb Gokhale had served as District Deputy Collector of Colaba, in Bijapur and Dharwar. He was at one time Dewan of Ramdurga and Kurundwad Senior State.—A. P.

CITY AND SUBURBS

Today

Hindu: Vaishakh Shud 8, 2000
Muslim: Jamadil-ul-Avaal 6, 1363
Parsi: Avan 29, 1313

To-day's Engagements

INDIAN SPIRITUALIST SOCIETY: There will be a discourse and seances at 51, Govardhandas Building, Opp. Portuguese Church Girgaum to-day (Sunday) at 6 p.m

MAJLIS-E-ITTIHAD-O-TARAQQI: A meeting of the Executive Committee to-day (Sunday) at 6-30 p.m. at the Majlis Office. Mr. R A. Baig will preside

RAMAKRISHNA-VIKEKANANDA CENTRE: M R Gopalachar will conduct the weekly class on 'Bhagwat Geeta' at 10 a.m. to-day (Sunday) at the Centre premises, 64 Portuguese Church Street Dadar, B B & C I Rly

ALIGARH OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION: The Annual General Meeting of the Bombay Presidency Aligarh Old Boy's Association to-day (Sunday) at 5-30 p.m. (N S T) at Khilafat House, Bombay.
All Aligarh old boys are requested to attend

ZOROASTER'S DISA CELEBRATION: To-day (Sunday) at the K R Cama Oriental Institute Library Hall, Apollo Street Jashan 5 p.m. Lecture at 6 p.m B T Anklesaria will preside and Dasturji Bode and others will speak

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS: Public Lecture on "The Spiritual Life" Jehangir Wadia Bldg. Flora Fountain to-day (Sunday) 6-15 p.m

"SHRI RAMACHANDRA BHAJANA SAMAJ, DADAR: The Annual General Meeting of the Members will be held at the Samaj premises to-day (Sunday) at 9-30 a.m. (S T.)"

SOCIAL GATHERING: Of the Imperial High School Ex-Students' Association will be held at the School Hall, to-day (Sunday) at 5 p.m (S.T.), when Dasturji F A Bode, B.A. will preside

MOGAVEERA YUVAKA SANGHA: "A public meeting tho-day (Sunday) at 9-30 a.m at 46 Churchgate Street, 2nd floor, Fort. Prof. R V Jagirdar, Sjt. U M Inamdar and Negalur Ranganath will speak on "Bombay and Kannada"

SOVIET EXHIBITION: The friends of the Soviet Union exhibition at the Kamgar Maidan will be open to-day (Sunday), from 9 a.m to 9 p.m.

DR. B. C. ROY TO ADDRESS DOCTORS

"Dr. B C Roy, President of Bengal Medical Relief Co-ordination Committee is going to address a meeting of the Doctors in Bombay to-day (Sunday) at 5 p. m in National Medical College Hall. He will be speaking on Bengal Medical Relief".

"A ROSE IN THE WILDERNESS"

Modern Chinese Play Staged In Bombay

The Bombay Branch of the Chinese Troops Comfort Association presented a modern Chinese play "A Rose In The Wilderness" at the Old Wellington Theatre on Friday night. The audience included the local Chinese community and a large number of Indian friends and well-wishers, of China.

The proceedings began with the singing of the Chinese National Anthem which was followed by a speech by Mr. C. T. Tsiang, the Chinese Consul, who first spoke in Chinese and then in English.

The play proved to be well-acted and well-directed. The dramatic pattern is provided by the impact of the patriotic anti-Japanese war on the personal and emotional life of the peopiefi Though the interest is centred on individuals; the play has a definite patriotic ring about it.

Mrs. K. N. Chiang who directed the play as well as played the leading role of Yen-Fa, "the rose drifting into the wilderness", deserves congratulations for her dual success. Her portrayal of the ex-dancing hostess had a sensitive charm, and her direction of the play showed a competent grasp of stagecraft. Another member of the caste who impressed was S. C. Chu who played the role of a servant.

All the proceeds from the play are being used to purchase articles of comfort for Chinese troops now fighting in North Burma.

Indian Women's University

Miss Laxmi Thackersey, Hon. Ag. Registrar, Indian Women's University, writes:—

The following have been elected on the Senate on behalf of the different Electorates for a period mentioned against their names in the elections held in April, 1944

PATRONS' ELECTORATE

(1) Seth Ratanchand Hirachand Bombay—Elected 5 years.

GRADUATES' ELECTORATE

(2) Dr. Mrs. Malinibai Sukthankar, Bombay, elected 5 years

(3) Lt. Col A B Gajendragadkar, Bombay, elected 5 years.

(4) Prin. V R Nerurkar, Bombay, elected 5 years.

(5) Mrs Sulochana Mody, Bombay, elected 5 years.

(6) Miss Hira K Mehta, Bombay, elected 5 years.

(7) Mr. B S Dabke, Bombay, elected 5 years.

(8) Mr. B. N Gokhale, Bombay, elected 2 years.

GENERAL ELECTORATE

(9) Prof. D S Phatak, Bombay, elected 5 years.

(10) Prof. C N Vakil, Bombay elected 5 years.

EDUCATED LADIES' ELECTORATE

(11) Mrs Sitabai Annigeri, Bombay, elected 5 years

OYSTERMAN'S SON WHO BECAME U. S. NAVY'S CHIEF

Remarkable Career Of Col. Knox

WASHINGTON, April 28, (By Cable).

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox died at his home here this morning at the age of 70. The announcement was made by Acting Secretary James V. Forrestal.

Knox was born January 1, 1874, in Boston, in the New England state of Massachusetts, where his father ran an oyster market. The father lost his savings in a lobster-canning venture and went west in 1881 to open a grocery in Grand Rapids, in the northern state of Michigan. When he was 11, Frank began helping his parents by working after school hours. His mother wanted him to be a Presbyterian minister and to this end he worked his way through Alma College but the Spanish-American War begun in the year he was graduated and he abandoned the ministry for the Rough Riders.

He was 43 when in 1917 the United States entered the war of 1914-18. Beating down attempts to keep him in a swivel chair at home, he got overseas and saw action at St. Mihiel and in the Meuse Argonne with the 303rd Ammunition Train of the 78th Division. He emerged a major. In 1937 he was promoted to colonel in the Field Artillery Reserve.

Knox engaged in small-town journalism until 1927, when William Randolph Hearst put him in charge of his Boston newspapers at a salary of 52,000 dollars a year. He was soon made general manager of all the Hearst properties and his salary raised to more than 150,000 dollars. In December 1930, he left Hearst to become publisher of the 'Chicago Daily News'.

Repeatedly offered the Navy Secretaryship by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Knox, a Republican and anti-New Dealer, accepted when another Republican Henry L. Stimson, agreed to become Secretary of War. The two joined the Cabinet in July, 1940.

Knox dug into the job in earnest. He made it plain that he was boss of the shop, as he called the Navy Department. He kept the work of the bureaus at his fingertips. He shifted commands, putting younger and more aggressive officers into key positions, with the result that the average age of U.S. flag officers today is lower than it hac ever been before.

He found the department short of help and some of its bureaus far behind in their work. Today every man's desk must be clear when he goes home at night. Accelerating the speed with which new ships come sliding off the ways is a more difficult matter, but Knox attacked it with every short cut practicable. Under his administration the building time of destroyers was reduced from 32 to 18 months, of cruisers from 36 to 30 months, of submarine from 30 to 22.

Knox had a direct telephone to the White House on his desk. He saw the President frequently at the executive offices by day and in the White House study by night.

Knox looked and acted like a man 10 years younger. Every morning, he did 15 minutes of strenuous exercises. He learned the setting-up routine in the Army and followed it every morning for 30 years. If his day's work did not tire him enough, friends said, he went to an osteopath or a gymnasium rubber at the end of the day and "got the excess energy jolted out of him."—USOWI.

Allied Cause Has Suffered Heavy Loss By Death Of U. S. Navy Secretary, Says Alexander

WASHINGTON, April 28.

The most likely successor to Colonel Knox as Secretary of the Navy is Mr. James Forrestal, the 48-year old Under-Secretary of the Navy. He will in any case act as Navy Secretary until President Roosevelt appoints a successor. This may not be for some time. Another name mentioned is that of Mr. Wendell Willkie.

Both houses of the Congress went into recess immediately on learning of Colonel Knox's death.

In a statement sent to American Navy stations and personnel throughout the world, the Acting Secretary, Mr. James Forrestal, said. "Colonel Knox devoted himself unremittingly and without reserve to the best interests of his country. His active leadership during the current struggle has been an inspiration which will be sorely missed."

ALEXANDER'S TRIBUTE.

LONDON: The First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. A. V. Alexander, on being informed of the death of Colonel Frank Knox, the United States Secretary of Navy said: "The Allied cause has suffered very heavy loss. But before and after the Pearl Harbour he proved himself a great friend of those fighting for the cause of freedom. From the moment the President included him in the administration in July 1940 Colonel Knox worked might and main for the great American Navy.

NIMITZ'S STATEMENT.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific, Admiral Chester Nimitz, in a statement following the death of Colonel Knox said, "In the passing of Colonel Knox the United States has lost one of its most able and loyal servants.—Reuter.

Col. Knox, U.S.A. Navy Secretary who died on Friday.

RESULTS OF B.Sc. (Tech.) EXAMINATIONS

The following candidates have passed in the German Translation Test Examination for the B. Sc. (Tech.) course held in March 1944 by the University of Bombay:

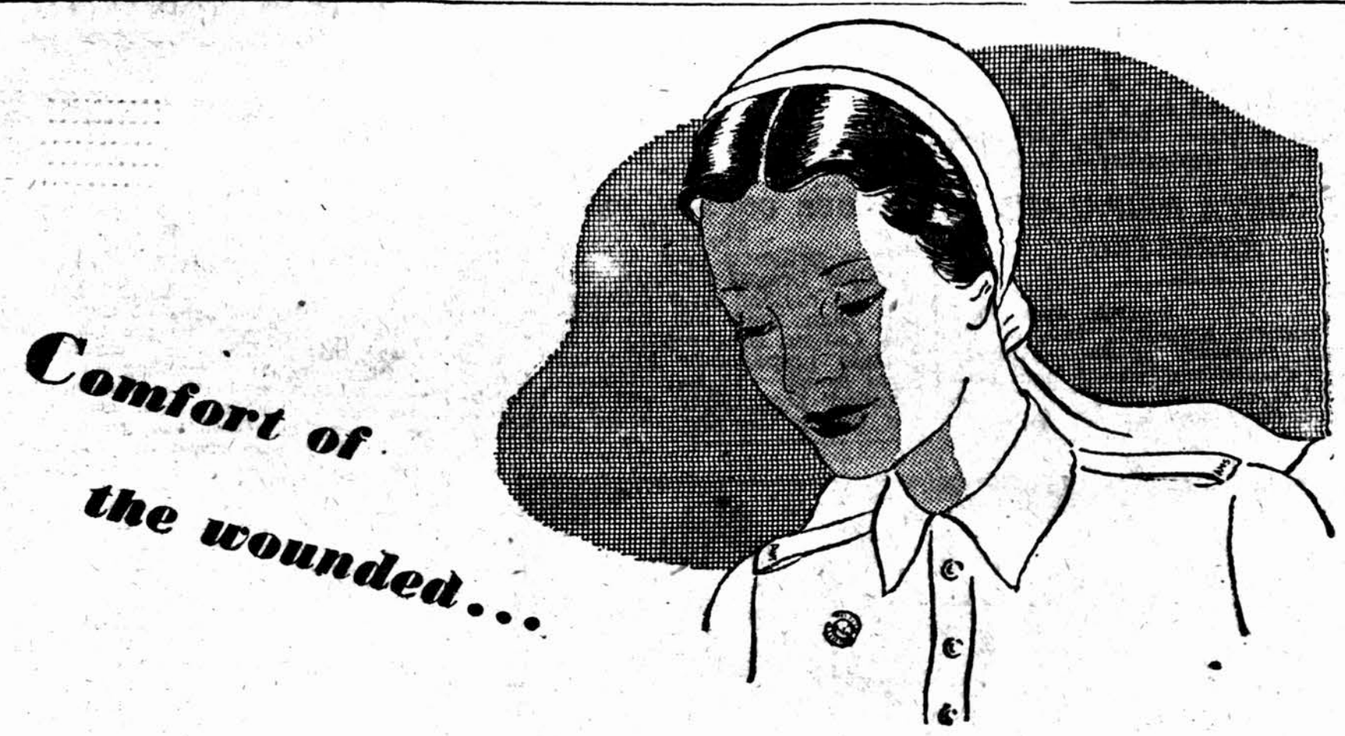
Nos. 1 2 3 4 5 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 32 33 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 46 47 48 49 51 52 53.

The following candidates have passed the B Sc (Tech.) Examination held in March 1944:

Nos. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21.

The Byramji Ratanji Lentin Technological Scholarship has been awarded to No. 9.

The Amelia wife of Dr. A. G. Viegas Scholarship has been awarded to No. 17.



Blessed is the devotion of the great army of loyal women who are today nursing the sick in India. War has taken its toll in sickness and suffering and the tireless devotion to duty of these magnificent women is an inspiration and an example to all. But this task is enormous and many more women are urgently needed. The brave men of India, her soldiers, sailors and airmen, need you to help them through their sickness back to health. Will you give them *your* care, service and sympathy?

★

AUXILIARY NURSING SERVICE

Previous experience is not essential. A gratuity is payable on completion of satisfactory service. Midwives are eligible for direct enrolment—increments available for past experience. Certificated nurses unable to accept the liabilities of the I.M.N.S. can join the A.N.S. under special terms. For further details, write now to the Lady Superintendent St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas of the area in which you live. If you have any difficulty in finding her address, write direct to the Director General, Indian Medical Service, New Delhi.

★

On Italian Front

WEST COAST PORTS BOMBED

MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED ADVANCE FORCE H. Qs.

To-day's 'communique' said "LAND: all sectors of the front were quiet. Patrols were active.

AIR: yesterday the west coast ports of Piombino, Orbetello and San Stefano were attacked by medium forces of heavy bombers. Medium bombers resumed their attacks on rail communications striking at bridges at Orvieto, Incisa and Arezzo. Light and fighter-bombers attacked supply dumps, gun positions and rail targets.

Fighters maintained battle line patrols. Last night, our bombers attacked Genoa and other ports on the west coast of Italy.

Five enemy aircraft were destroyed and 11 of ours are missing.

ON DALMATIAN ISLANDS

LONDON: April 29: Widespread wrecking of trains in German occupied area, resulting in the suspension of military traffic from two to six days is reported in the 'communique' from Marshal Tito's H. Qs. as broadcast to-day by the Free Yugoslav radio.

The 'communique' says, Germans who committed atrocities in Yugoslavia are among the prisoners taken by Tito's forces on the Dalmatian islands of Mljet and Korcula.

In Slovenia, skirmishes on the Trieste Fiume road and fighting in south-east of Ljubljana are reported.

In Macedonia, the power and transformer station supplying the town of Vranje with electricity has been wrecked by Partisans.

ON ADRIATIC SECTOR

From Abdul Khalek Quereshi, A.P.I. special correspondent with Indian troops in Italy on April 29.

The Germans on Wednesday night, sent out a patrol to blow up a house which gave cover for Indian troops on the Adriatic sector.

The house is situated above the edge of 'no man's land'. The Germans crawled within grenading distance of their objective and set about the task with bombs and rifle grenades.

The Indian troops defending the house called for assistance of Allied mortars. Meanwhile, they pinned the Germans down under a rain of small arms fire. Allied mortars fired salvo after salvo. The German attempt was frustrated and they withdrew carrying away casualties.—Reuter.

JEDHE AND JOSHI RELEASED

POONA April 29: Mr. Keshavrao Jedhe, M.L.A. (Central) and Mr. Haribhau Joshi who were released from jail arrived here to-day.

Twenty detenus from Karnatak were released yesterday.—A. P.

SUCHETA KRIPALANI ARRESTED

PATNA, April 29.

Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani, wife of Mr. Kripalani, Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee, who had been "wanted" since the August disturbances of 1942 was arrested yesterday.

"FOREIGN IMPERIALISM, OUR REAL ENEMY"

Punjab League Conference Chief's Plea For Settlement On Basis Of Pakistan For Achieving Independence

SIALKOT, April 28.

The longest procession in the history of Sialkot was taken out here when the Provincial Muslim League Conference commenced here. Mr. Jinnah, Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan, Mr. Abdul Nishtar were taken in car procession through the main bazars. Capt. Shaukat Hyat was the hero of the day and received tremendous ovation.

About fifty thousand people participated in the procession which terminated peacefully at Firdausi Iqbal.

"Hindus are not our enemies. It is foreign imperialism which stands in our way. Let Hindus come to some sort of settlement with us on the basis of Pakistan and then we shall make a common front for achieving the independence of our country", said Mr. Nasir Ahmed, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcoming the delegates to the Provincial League Conference.

FATHER OF NEW MUSLIM INDIA

Sardar Abdur Nishtar, President-elect and Finance Minister of N. W. F. P., after paying a glowing tribute to the sacred memory of the great poet and philosopher Iqbal as the father of new Muslim India said, "Muslim India is face to face with three most important problems at present, namely, Palestine, Pakistan which is a question of life and death with us and lastly the interesting affairs pertaining to the Punjab Ministry." He warned the Allies, particularly America and Britain against the policy of injustice to Palestine which might create great resentment among the entire Muslim world and added Indian Muslims would not tolerate such injustice.

PAKISTAN DEMAND

Referring to Pakistan he said, "India was never one in fact and was never ruled on the basis of western democracy which does not suit India as under such system ten crores of Muslims will be in perpetual minority and at the mercy of Hindu mentality and Hindu caste system. We Muslims do not want to rule anybody and do not want to be ruled by anybody. Our demand is just. We say live and let live. Let us establish independent sovereign states in regions where we are in majority and we would not object to your establishing your own states where you are in majority. About geographical unity he remarked how geography was being changed every day as British themselves changed the geography of many a country and cited Ireland, Canada, Burma, French India and hundreds of Indian States directed against the Muslims and the British. He declared that League would not repeat the Congress blunder but when the time comes Muslims would make every possible sacrifice for Pakistan.

LEAGUE COUNCIL PLAN FOR PUNJAB

It is gathered from talks with responsible League Leaders that Punjab will be divided into different zones and each zone will be entrusted to one League Leader who will organise League propaganda in urban and rural areas. It is understood that a detailed programme will be submitted before the Council of Action of the All-India Muslim League which meets in Lahore on 1st May.

It is interesting to note that the Nawab of Mamdot and other Provincial League Leaders slept in the camp for the first time with other delegates with a view to establish firsthand contact with people's representatives.

LEAGUE CABINET MEETING TO BE CALLED

Usually well-informed and reliable League Circles are responsible for the report that Mr. Jinnah will shortly convene a meeting of the Muslim League Working Committee and acquaint members with the latest developments in League politics in the Punjab.

Possibilities of disciplinary action being taken against the Punjab Premier are discussed here but it is understood that Mr. Jinnah will not take any such step before referring the matter to the League Working Committee which will discuss threadbare and take steps that may be deemed necessary in the best interest of the League.—Orient Press.

Jinnah Inaugurates Session

Mr. M. A. Jinnah, formally inaugurated the Annual Session of the Punjab Muslim League which commenced at "Firdos Iqbal" at 11-15 p.m. Amidst scenes of great enthusiasm under the presidentship of Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar, Finance Minister, Frontier Province.

Mr. Jinnah in the course of a brief speech in Urdu thanked the Muslims of Sialkot for the "royal" reception accorded to him. From what he had observed in Sialkot he could say that every Muslim was with the Muslim League.

Mr. Jinnah reserved his main speech till to-morrow night. After Mr. Nasir Ahmed Mallhi, Chairman of the Reception Committee had welcomed Mr. Jinnah, Mr. Abdur Rab Nishtar President-Elect, and delegates, Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar delivered his presidential address.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

COTTON (July)

New York, April 29

Previous closing	20.61
To-day's opening	20.59
Difference	—02
To-day's closing	20.59
Difference	—02

CITY MARKETS

BOMBAY Saturday.

Anxiety at the news of Gandhiji's ill-health was expressed by the City Markets today. Bullion Exchange expressed its grave anxiety by suspending all transactions in Gold and Silver for the day.

On the Cotton Exchange, nervous sentiment prevailed. There was general liquidation in May settlement as tenders for 50,000 bales are expected to be offered on Monday On the Sewri Market, Government is reported to have purchased about 2,800 bales Only 35 per cent of the samples tendered were passed by the Purchase Committee by the Government. On news that the Government is purchasing only long staple cotton, nervousness again prevailed and it reacted nervously on the Cotton Exchange. The I. C. C May position opened around Rs. 421 and on pressure of selling closed easy at 416/8. The tone is nervous.

On the Indian Stock Exchange there was narrow trading with an easy tendency. Closing rates are as follows:

Tata Ordinary Rs. 401/8; Tata Defd Rs. 2047/8; Indian Iron Rs. 35/12; Bengal Steel Rs. 27; Bombay Dyeing Rs. 1985; Central India Rs. 440; Century Rs. 950; Gokak Rs 341/4; Kohinoor Rs. 666/4; Simplex Rs. 253; Andravalley Rs 1840; Tata Hydro Rs. 200; Tata Power Rs. 1877; A C C Rs. 229; Belapur Rs 246/4: Bombay Burma (old) Rs. 395.

NEW YORK COTTON

NEW YORK, April 28.

To-day's Closing

May 21.11; July 20.61; October 19.86; Middling spot 21.56.

NEW YORK COTTON

Noon Call

May 21.19; July 20.69; October 19.96.

NEW ORLEANS COTTON

May 21.27; July 20.77; October 19.89; Middling spot 20.75.

ALL-INDIA WHEAT FORECAST

The following third All-India wheat forecast for 1943-44 has been published by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta:

The total acreage is 33,611,000, with an estimated production of 10,356,000 tons, against 34,091,000 acres and 10,945,000 tons, corresponding revised estimates of last year. There is a decrease of one per cent in area and 5 per cent in yield. The crop is reported to have been affected in places by rains, hailstorms and rust, but the present condition appears fairly good on the whole

"Heavy Raid" On Berlin

Serious Demage And Fires Caused In Centre Of City

LONDON, April 29.

United States Headquarters announced that United States heavy bombers attacked Berlin in very great strength this morning.

The Calais radio said this afternoon that "large fires and serious damage" were caused in Berlin to-day after the daylight raid on the German capital by Allied planes.

Earlier, the Cologne radio had given warning of Allied formations over Brandenburg province, which includes Berlin.

The Calais radio announcer described the attack as "a heavy raid" by United States bomber formations. "Serious damage and fires were caused in the centre of the city. United States bombers were engaged by strong forces of the German defence", he said.—Reuter.

CITY TEXTILE MILLS' DONATION

158 Bales Of Cotton Cloth For Destitutes

BOMBAY, Saturday

Over 158 bales of cloth worth about Rs. 1,25,000 has been donated by 30 textile mills of Bombay, for the relief of destitutes in the areas affected by the recent fires. This is in response to the recent appeal of the Sheriff's Relief Committee.

The work of distribution has begun at Naigaum and Dongri centres where about a thousand destitutes were given cloth during the last two days. Further distribution is being arranged at other centres. Those who need assistance should apply to the Sheriff's Relief Committee, 9 Wallis St., Tele 26281 or at Manohar Mills, C/o Tulsidas Gupta, Mills Compound, Tele 40765.—A. P.

BOMBAY LEAGUE RELIEF COMMITTEE

BOMBAY, April 29

The Bombay Provincial Muslim League announces that a committee with Mr. I. I. Chundrigar as the Chairman has been appointed to carry out relief work for those people who have suffered on account of the fires and explosions. The Committee is named Bombay Provincial Muslim League Relief Committee with its office at Shahru Castle, Mohammedali Road, Bombay.

Several sub-committees have been appointed.—A. P.

MYSORE RULER'S DONATION

BANGALORE, April 27: His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore has donated Rs. 10.000 for relief of sufferers in the recent fire and explosion in Bombay.—A. P.

KARACHI MERCHANTS SEND RS. 5,000

KARACHI, April 29

A sum of Rs. 5,000 has been sent by the Indian commercial community of Karachi to alleviate the sufferings of the fire victims in Bombay.—A. P.

SADHONA BOSE AT EXCELSIOR

Sadhona Bose and her ballet commenced their season at the Excelsior Theatre on Friday with a programme which provides a varied fare of dances. Music is under the direction of Amiya Kanti. Sadhona Bose, who is a talented arteste and who has grace and freedom of execution skilfully interprets "Drawpadi"—a delightful episode. She figures in and renders lively some of the group-dances with her brisk and flowing movements. "Street-dance"—a light variety in which she is ably partnered by Madhav Menon—was greeted with applause.

The programme offers sufficient scope to a few other members of the troupe like Diptendu, Madhav Menon and Sukhendu Dutt to display their abilities. Diptendu is adequately vigorous and expressive in "Arjun", and so is Madhav Menon in his "Hunter". "Gandharva" introduces Sukhendu Dutt in a solo item. "Surpankha" "Holi" and "Saki" are interesting group-dances.

"Bhook", which forms the finale is a ballet in the popular style with Sadhona Bose in the role of the daughter of the boarder. It represents through significant gestures and movements the evils of boarding grain and is, to some extent, reminiscent of the tragedy of Bengal. The shadow-technique, which is exploited for the purposes of depicting the effects of the cyclone imparts variety with ensemble of the ballet.

POONA, April 29: The Additional City Magistrate, Poona, yesterday, sentenced a merchant to one month's rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 300, in default one month's further rigorous imprisonment for being in possession of coins in excess of his requirements.—A. P.

Mohenjodaro
Bharhut
Gandhara
Kusāna
The Secret of Beautiful Hair
Various ways of dressing the hair have played an important part in the lives of men and women throughout the ages in every country. In India this can be traced as far back as 5,000 years ago from the excavations at Mohenjodaro.
So even to-day, a healthy and lustrous head of hair adds charm and beauty.
TOMCO COCONUT HAIR OIL & SHAMPOO
A TATA PRODUCT
THE TATA OIL MILLS COMPANY LIMITED

Neglect of Art In Kathiawar—Province's distinctive Folk Art traditions—Pre-requisites of art movement—Wanted Rulers' Leadership—"Voice of Bengal" heard in Bombay—Prince of Wales Museum in War-time.

Success should be the reward of those who, according to a recent report, are discussing the project of the formation of the Kathiawar Art Society. The Society, if it materialises itself, will mark the initial stage of a much needed movement. Kathiawar, which is in the frontline of Rajasthani India, is a province of remote antiquity. It has added illuminating chapters to the Indian history, archaeology, epigraphy and numismatics. In spite of it no attempts are known to have been made to take stock of its characteristic traditions of folk-art and of the contributions made by it, through ages, to the classical arts of the country. Urgently needed, therefore, is the inauguration of a province-wide art-movement.

Black-Out Of Art

It is surprising that the rulers of Western India States, though they are cultured and enlightened, should be oblivious to the black-out of art in their States. Royal patronage was a great stimulus to the growth of art in ancient India. The rulers are proud of their ancestry but they are not inclined to emulate their ancestors in the matter of patronage to art. Apparently they have toed the line with the Government of India in neglecting art which, rightly speaking, ought to be one of the primary concerns of the heads of the States. Requisitioning the services of art as a means of delectation or as an auxiliary of pageantry is not patronage. It does not give impetus to art, nor does it bring the same to the people.

Though the rulers have pledged allegiance to the Paramount Power, they are, particularly in the case of the first class States, quite independent in the administration of justice, education and public health. Nobody restrains their hands if they formulate scheme of compulsory and free education, of developing the artistic resources of their States and of making art accessible to the people. Education in Kathiawar is proceeding at a snail's pace. Art is receding at a quicker pace. The rulers are trained in India, and also in England in some cases, in the western traditions. They are not unaware of the position of art in the western countries; why should they, then, emerge from the educational slot as patrons of "sports" and not of "art"?

Neglected Problems

The people of the province, to whom the alluring influence of westernism has not yet gained access, have retained their artistic way of life and have continued their smouldering art-traditions. They can be easily differentiated from those of other provinces by their language accents, customs, and colours and designs of dress and, moreover, by their poetry, music and dances. They are the sole custodians and arbiters of their art-traditions as they have been granted a cultural autonomy. Precisely stated the rulers do not consider it their duty to inquire how the people sing, dance, build their houses and evolve the designs of their cottage-industries. The policy of laissez faire punctiliously pursued by the States will not ensure stability to the art and craft traditions of Kathiawar.

The mother earth is holding underneath its surface a rich treasure of the province's art-traditions. It is by sheer accident that the fractions of the hidden treasure come to light at times. The States, which are rich and resourceful, have not appraised the values of archaeology as a positive department. Museums are bound to be conspicuous absentees even in the larger towns especially when archaeology continues to be almost a stranger to their rulers. Baroda, Hyderabad, Mysore and Gwalior have placed archaeology and museums on a sound footing; but the States of Kathiawar are not inclined to explore the different strata of the earth in order to bring to the surface the hidden treasure of art, coins and inscriptions.

Another neglected problem of the province is town-planning. The rulers, who are alive to the values of civic art and to the necessity of integrating cultural and artistic amenities in the civic designs, form a minority. The civil engineers are the sole authorities on planning and the owners of the buildings are the sole judges of the architectural designs; and architecture and planning are foreign to both the parties. Instances are not unknown in which the rulers have evinced interest in planning and architecture, but since their outlook is not Indian, the towns which have emerged under their personal supervision appear to be the poor imitations of the western models.

Kathiawar is celebrated for its communities of traditional architects and sculptors to whose credit stand several beautiful examples of civic and religious architecture. These architects are versatile in the sense that they are able to supply the architectural demands of any religion or sect. They are deprived of a part of their livelihood by the retrogression of the art of temple-building which is a reaction of the reformist movement in the fold of the Hindu religion. Their creative abilities are being stifled by the neglect of the States to formulate schemes of architecture with emphasis on the Indian traditions and to provide barricades against the aggression of the monstrous modernism from British India. Mural decoration has very nearly disappeared from the province. Architecture and sculpture will go the same way if they are not rescued, in time, from the imminent danger of extinction.

Scope Of Movement

Folk music, dances and poetry are distinct contributions of the province to the folk art of India. The "lasya" type of the classical dance traces its origin, according to the mythological evidence, from Dwarka. Kathiawar has played a prominent role in pioneering the contemporary theatrical movement of Gujarat. The designs of the textiles and several artistic handicrafts are original and distinctive, but they are losing ground in competition with the foreign imports and with the products of mechanised industry. The States have taken no steps whatsoever to ensure the survival and development of the folk-art, stage and industrial designs.

Art-exhibitions are almost a rarity in the province, and so are dance recitals and music-concerts on a public scale. Popular patronage is the sheet-anchor of a few theatrical companies. Art dances attendance to the princes, but it desists from approaching the people. How long are the rulers going to treat art as their pleasant aversion? The art-movement, if it is inaugurated with the formation of the Kathiawar Art Society, will find an immense scope of work; but it ought to be able to enlist the co-operation of the rulers and to exploit the resources of their States to their maximum capacity.

The rulers, who have performed pilgrimage to Britain, are not expected to be unaware of the institutions like the Royal Academies and colleges of Art and Music and the British Folk Dance Society. They have the means but not the mind to establish similar institutions in their province. It is high time that art should claim a portion of the expenditure incurred by the rulers on their personal luxuries, sports and regular visits to summer resorts. Some of the rulers are known to be art-minded. They ought to be now art-for the-people minded also.

Organisation of an archaeological department, establishment of a museum and music school and construction of an art-theatre in the capital, opening music and art classes in the schools, plans for preservation of folk art and for the development of the industrial designs and provision of the facilities for the peripatetic exhibitions should be the minimum but initial contribution of every state of importance to the art-movement. Equally unavoidable as the items on the programme of the art-movement should be the schemes of town-planning and architecture. Will the rulers take the lead in organising the Kathiawar Art Society?

Bengal Calling

The "Voice of Bengal" presented by the cultural squad of the Bengal Relief Committee and the artistes of the Indian People's Theatre Association at the Framji Cowasji Institute on April 21 was in a refreshing contrast to the stage-shows which are popular in Bombay. It was a serious performance and not an entertainment in its current sense. Short plays, ballets and songs were the examples of art-purposeful. They represented the spirit of the age and the approach to some of the burning problems of the day from the artistic angle. The performance was characterised by the directness and forcefulness of the appeal of the words and actions in spite of the elimination of the gorgeous settings and costumes and simplification of the technique.

One witnessed in "Antim Abhilasha"—a play in four scenes—the realistic picture of the victims of the unprecedented tragedy of Bengal and not the "gods and goddesses" who have discovered, in the stage of Bombay, their "second heavens." "Save Bengal" was an equally interesting representation of the plight of the province. "Starvation and Epidemics"—a short ballet with three characters portrayed the evil effects of hoarding which is a scourge of the capitalistic social order. Songs, which were rendered in a spirited manner, gave expression to the ambitions and aspirations of the younger generation.

Why should such simple performances be effective in their appeal? The reply can be found with no difficulty. The artistes who present them are the people of definite views and deep political convictions. They do not belong to the class of the artistes of the professional stage or to the category of the stage-struck amateurs of the high society. They have pledged themselves to the noble purpose of spreading the messages of patriotism, liberty, unity and economic prosperity. The People's Theatre Movement relies upon its own strength and not on the services of mercenary artistes. Adaptation of the technique of the traditional folk-songs to the "songs of the age" is an experiment whose progress should be watched with interest. Why should similar experiments on the classical techniques of Indian arts be not undertaken by the protagonists of the new movement?

Emergency Measure

What was expected has happened. The Prince of Wales Museum has appeared on the list of the emergency-measures and will now accommodate, in its main building, the Red Cross Society. The Director of Public Information has, in a press note, declared that as the measure necessitates the removal of exhibits to other galleries of storage, it will not be possible to keep these galleries open to the visitors and that the main building of the museum will, therefore, be closed for the duration of the war.

Disapprobation of the measure while it was on the anvil of the officialdom was first expressed by the Headmasters' Association of Bombay City and Suburbs in the speech of its President Mr. M. T. Vyas at a social function organised by the Association on March 4. Mr. I. H. Taunton, Adviser to the Governor of Bombay (Education) was reported to have declared himself in agreement with the Association as regards the educational values of the museum and to have replied that the whole museum would not be closed. It is now officially announced that the "main building" will be closed and that what will remain open will be the extension on the east side which is occupied by the Natural History Section and the Mohen-jo-daro collection.

It is to be regretted that the Government have, in their anxiety to offer accommodation to the Red Cross Society, completely ignored the educational and cultural interests of the public. There is no institution in the City which can supplement the functions of the Prince of Wales Museum. The latter is the type of the institution which is needed by the people especially during the times when the war is being fought actually on the soil of India. The Government ought to have explored other avenues in order to find out accommodation for the Society. Still it is not too late. Will they reconsider their decision and remove the museum from the list of the emergencies of the war?

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

Such is our great brotherhood of the Balkan-ji-Bari. Letters have been pouring in large numbers from all parts of India—specially from Sind—making enquiries about the safety of all Members of the Balkan-ji-Bari. Terrible, of course, has been the news regarding the explosion tragedy, and the mofussil people are naturally alarmed to hear of the calamity.

I cannot mention here names of all those friends who have so kindly written to me in this connection. It is, nonetheless, gratifying to let them know that none of the Balkan-ji-Bari members, fortunately, has been personally affected by the huge loss ..... As for the relief, Bombay surely is doing its best!

* * *

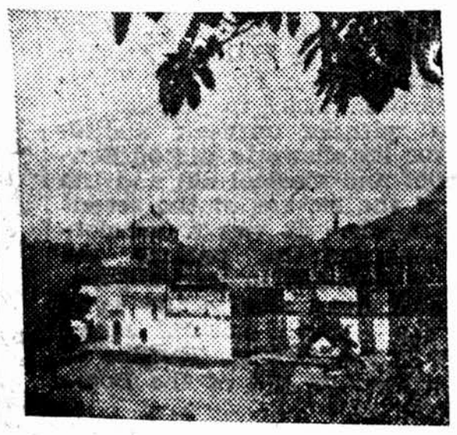
Then, there is a letter from an old Associate of the All-India Children's Association, Shri Amar Singh, now staying in Kashmir, saying that "if *any members or associates of our Brotherhood are coming to Kashmir this summer, they are welcome to visit us. I assure you that they will be well entertained by our children.*"

Shri Amar Singh is a teacher at the Vishwa Bharati School, situated near the First Bridge in Srinagar. So those visiting Kashmir this summer may well take advantage of his kind offer. He has already made preparations for the starting of a Balkan-ji-Bari Local Branch in that beautiful land. And soon we shall have faster links with each other!

* * *

Others wishing to start Balkan-ji-Bari Local Branches are: Shri Kamlesh of the Gujarat Provincial Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Khadia, Ahmedabad; Shri Sadhan Roy c/o the Eastern Traders' Bank Ltd., Station Road, Patna; and Shri Rameshwar Prasad Saxena, 104 A/59 Ram Bagh (Postal Area), Cawnpore. Interested friends staying in these places may get in touch with them.

The Karamanai (Trivandrum, S. I.) Balkan-ji-Bari has resumed its activities in a new building, which is in the midst of a coconut-grove, with sufficient space for games. They have started a Hindustani Class which is being conducted by Sri Chitambaram. "The enthusiasm of children is ever growing," writes Brother Hariharan, and with the growth of children's enthusiasm, the enthusiasm of elders also is bound to grow!"



DELWADA TEMPLE, ABU.
(Photo by Madhukar Desai)

* * *

A general meeting of all the active workers and sympathisers of the Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari was held on Saturday, April 22, under the presidentship of Lady Masani. Besides elections, which will be announced next week, a number of items concerning our work were discussed and a plan prepared for consolidating our activities.

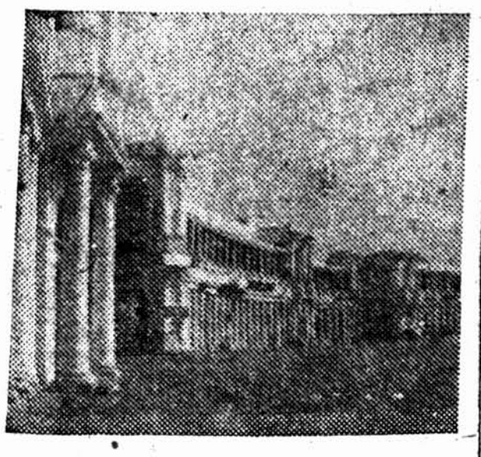
On this occasion, Shri Harbhai Trivedi, a member of our All-India Board of Directors, made a short speech, drawing the Balkan-ji-Bari Workers' attention to certain important points which would be helpful to them in running the Children's Centre. It was a treat to hear him, and I am certain, the effects of his address and the inspiration of Lady Masani will bring a new enthusiasm in all our Workers.

* * *

Shri Harbhai Trivedi visited the Khar Balkan-ji-Bari on Sunday, April 23. After the children had entertained him with a number of spontaneous dramatic pieces, he spoke to them on the necessity of cleanliness. He emphasised that children should take care to see that everywhere they are in clean surroundings. Shri Prabhubhai Dholakia also related to them the description of Cutch, his native place.

I have been requested by the Kumar Mandal and Kumari Mandal of Dahanu to announce that they have organised a Young Gujarati Writers' Conference on 6th and 7th May at Dahanu. They have also arranged an Exhibition of Manuscript Magazines. Full particulars may be obtained from them directly c/o "Pratima," Gandhi Road, Dahanu, (Dist. Thana—B.B. & C.I. Rly.)

All Good Wishes from
Your Lovino Dada
"GULISTAN," KHAR-BOMBAY, 21.



"A COLUMN OF COLUMNS"
(Photo by Kumudini Talpade)

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The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

On this page this week is the photograph of a remarkable woman.

The most remarkable thing about this woman is that she is not a woman. Indeed, 'she' is a man!

This phenomenal personality is Narayanrao Shripad Rajhans otherwise known as Balgandharva. the idol of the Marathi theatrical world, who presided over the Marathi Stage Centenary Celebrations which have just concluded in Bombay after a hectic fortnight of theatrical activity during which a series of old and new plays; operas, historical dramas, musicals, etc. were staged before a nightly audience of six to eight thousands.

The man is as unique as the occasion was unprecedented and both deserve a more than passing reference.

★

'Heavenly Dancer (Junior)'

Look at him to-day—a shortish, oldish, egg-bald yet handsome man with a remarkably satin-smooth skin and pale complexion. It is difficult to believe that in the whole 100-year history of the Marathi stage he has been the most popular 'actress.' Yes, he is an 'actress'! For all his life he has distinguished himself in feminine roles.

He began his career forty years ago at a time when (like the Elizabethan stage in Shakespeare's days) no woman ever appeared on the Marathi stage and boys played all the feminine roles. He mastered all the mannerisms of a glamour girl, the little bits of business with the end of the sari, the arched eye-brows, the shrug of the shoulder, the coy smiles, the pouting lips, the maidenly gait, and achieved such perfection in his portrayal of female characters that later when the taboo was broken and women did appear on the stage, they could not beat their male competitor. Even with half a dozen leading ladies appearing in Marathi plays, Balgandharva remained the 'actress' supreme!

Not only did thousands flock to see his histrionic performances on the stage, the Maharashtrian women learnt to follow the fashions set by Balgandharva in his stage roles. There is a famous screen star, an accomplished actress in her own right, who is said to have learnt quite a few 'tricks of the trade' by studying Balgandharva's delineation of female characters.

There are numerous interesting anecdotes about him. It is said that he was given the title of 'Balgandharva' ('Bal' means 'child' and 'Gandharva' is the heavenly musician, the male version of an 'apsara'!) by no less a person than the great Lokmanya Tilak himself who was an admirer of his acting and musical talent. The late Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur was responsible for introducing him on the stage of the Kirloskar Company. And Tilak and the Maharaja of Kolhapur were well-known political opponents.

★

Last Of The Line

Balgandharva was not only a wonderful 'actress' and singer but also a showman. He had his own theatrical company—Gandharva Natak Mandali—which flourished for nearly a quarter of a century as the leading theatrical enterprise in Maharashtra till the talkies came and almost wiped out the stage

It is interesting to recall that the well-known film director, Shantaram, was once employed by Balgandharva—on a salary of three rupees per month. As a boy, Shantaram had been bitten by the stage bug and, forsaking school, he joined Gandharva Natak Mandali, touring with it all over Maharashtra for nearly a year. At the end of the year he returned home and went back to school but the lessons he learnt from the maestro in acting, make-up and stage-craft, h easys, served him well in the film career that he was to adopt in later life.

The story had an equally interesting sequel when twenty years later Shantaram, now a leading film director, offered a screen contract—the first male role Balgandharva ever played—to his old 'guru' and ex-employer. The film "Dharmatma", one of the best things Shantaram has ever produced, was the only incursion Balgandharva ever made in the screen world.

Those who saw him in the several plays staged in connection with the Centenary Celebrations found that even at 57 the old fire has not yet gone out of him. In one of the plays ("Sharda") he played an old woman's role (mother of heroine), in the second ("Saubhadra") he appeared in male role as Arjun, but in "Swayamwar" which was once his most famous play, he again played the role of Rukmini and, though it is physically impossible for a man of 57 to portray realistically a young woman still his acting was of a pretty high standard and his voice has not completely lost the old melody.

At one time Balgandharva was involved in a controversy about the advisability of woman appearing on the stage. He was opposed to their adopting the stage as a career—not because of professional jealousy but on moral grounds. In his presidential speech at the opening of the Centenary Celebrations, however, he openly declared that the question was no longer controversial. Balgandharva knows now that the modern audiences can no longer accept the unnatural sex-transformation of men into female characters. He seems to have cheerfully accepted the fate of being Maharashtra's last great male 'actress.' There will be none such after him.

★

From 9 P. M. To 5 A. M.

On the B. B. & C. I. suburban line, Charni Road is one of the very minor stations. Yet during the last two weeks it became the most important one. Every evening train after train deposited thousands of passengers here. Some of them took the last train back at 12-25 but most of them crowded into the 4-40 first train early in the morning.

Behind the Charni Road station, on the land between the railway lines and Marine Drive, were erected the stands for the Marathi Stage Centenary celebrations, with a total seating capacity of nearly eight thousands. And night after night the stands were packed with lovers of Marathi stage which rose from the ashes of its past in a sudden burst of glory.

The stage is a more difficult goddess to worship than the screen. The cinema offers streamlined entertainment compressed in a minimum measure of time. Two hours and a half are enough for the longest film to last and the war-time restriction to 11,000 feet has further reduced the time needed to see a film. A good old five-act play, on the other hand, requires at least five hours to be staged. And if it is a musical and the singers are good, able to hold their audience, then each song might take 15 to 20 minutes, even half an hour, and the five hours can easily be stretched to six.

Moreover no one ever expects a stage performance to begin in time. It is not the mechanical, soulless cinema business where the operator presses one switch and the bell rings in the auditorium. he presses another and the film begins to unreel itself. Here on the stage a hundred little personal factors are constantly conspiring to delay the proceedings—the hero hasn't had his tea, the heroine has got the hiccups. the villain has lost his moustaches, the bell-ringer is quarrelling with the curtain-raiser, the orchestra is not yet properly tuned, etc., etc. So the shows advertised for 9 p.m. started punctually late every day at 10 or 10-30 p.m. and went on till the early hours of the morning. And yet the enthusiasm was unabated the crowds remained undiminished! The Marathi drama has staged a definite come-back! And the cinema which had dealt almost a death-blow to the stage was definitely on the defensive during the last fortnight, the two Marathi films in the market, "Pundalik" and "Mali" (Marathi version) suffering as a consequence of the tremendous crowds that were diverted from their doors to the stage shows!

★

Under The Stars

Even a non-Maharashtrian, despite the language difficulty, could profitably spend several hours every night watching the performances. The first thing that struck one was that modern science alone could ensure this phenomenal revival of the stage. But for the wonderful arrangement of hidden microphones on the stage and loud-speakers in the vast open-air auditorium, such big crowds could never have been drawn in to see the shows.

Secondly, one felt the open-air auditorium under the stars, with a soft breeze blowing all the time, was a great improvement on the stuffy, dirty, cigarette smoke-filled halls in which the plays are generally performed in the vicinity of Playhouse and Kalbadevi. Thirdly, one marvelled at the utter crudity and 'naivette' of the old stage technique—the long speeches, the loud declamatory tones, the plethora of songs, the gaudy curtains and stage decorations, the unconvincing make-up and men playing the roles of women! No amount of respect which this writer has for Balgandharva's histrionic and musical talent and for the historical role he has played in the development of the Marathi stage can alter the fact that the modern mind cannot but regard a man acting as a woman as a ridiculous masquerade.

★

"Voice Of Bengal"

From the same stage will be heard on Friday and Saturday May 5 and 6, the VOICE OF BENGAL. The Indian People's Theatre has been lucky to get the use of the splendid open-air auditorium for its shows in aid of Bengal relief and medical aid and the relief of the victims of the recent local tragedy. It was a wonderful gesture on the part of the Mayor of Calcutta to send a donation to Bombay and in the same spirit the Bengali cultural squad offered to the People's Theatre to stage a show in aid of the Bombay sufferers.

The VOICE OF BENGAL, though by no means an entertainment of the usual type, is an engrossing programme. Seldom before has the stage been used for such powerfully realistic representation of topical reality. Song, dance and drama—everything is devised to focus attention on the main theme that is the plight of Bengal. And yet there is enough of melody and rhythm and suspenseful drama in "The VOICE OF BENGAL" to satisfy the most fastidious connoisseur of histrionics.

★

Screen Becomes Hunger-Conscious!

It is significant how the shadow of grim reality falls across the bright escapeland of the stage and screen. A leading local film studio, hitherto famous for its money-making entertainment films has announced a new film called 'BHOOK" (Hunger), which, we hear, will present in dramatic form a realistic picture of the famine-ridden Bengal. And Sadhona Bose, the talented dancer fresh from her role in the mythological film, "Shankar Parvati", is also reported to have included an ambitious ballet on a similar theme in the repertoire she is currently presenting in Bombay.

The People's Theatre's "VOICE OF BENGAL", however, sets up a standard of utter realism which the Entertainment Kings and Glamour Queens of the screen will find it difficult to equal.

★

Memo To A Certain American

Complaints have reached this department that a certain much-publicised glamour boy from Hollywood now sojourning in India has been very rude to Bombay newspapermen. He actually pushed a cartoonist from his door, using language that is definitely not printable.

May we request him to re-read carefully the "Pocket Guide To India" issued by War and Navy Departments of the U. S. Government a copy of which surely he must have received when coming out here, particularly the following passages:—

"If you are to complete your mission in the measure expected of you as an American, discretion and tact will be required of you at all times in your dealings with the Indian people....If you do nothing to wound their pride....you will have little difficulty in winning their respect and goodwill....If you are good-natured and patient in your dealings with Indians you won't have any trouble with them....'

But IF you are not good-natured and patient, brother, don't you think you are simply inviting trouble and letting down your own country? India can afford to ignore one more ill-mannered foreigner, but can America afford to send such a one as an ambassador of goodwill?

★

A Word To Mr. Jinnah

HABIB PARPIA writes to the "Chronicler":

Mr. Jinnah is reported to have stated to an interviewer of a London paper 'inter alia' as follows:

"If little Newfoundland can stand on its own feet in the same Continent as Canada then Pakistan with a population of 70 to 80 millions is certainly strong enough to march alone."

The Island of Newfoundland has not yet got its independence. However for the last 150 years or so the Dominion of Canada has been an independent member of the British Commonwealth. The latest census as reported by the "Economist" London shows that Canada's population comprises of 49.7 per cent British and 29.2 per cent French—two well-recognised and well-known separate nations living together harmoniously in a single state for the last 150 years or more. Why then can the Hindus and Muslims not live together harmoniously as they have been living for the last one thousand years? Moreover from amongst the Muslims in India nearly half are converts from Hindus including the ancestors of Mr. Jinnah himself. The surname "Jinnah" is a Gujarati or Kathiawadi Hindu surname and when Mr. Jinnah joined the Bombay Bar his name appeared in the Directory as Mr. Jinnahbhai Mahomedali. The word "Jinnah" is a corruption of the Gujarati word which appears even to-day on his board in the High Court premises.

Do what he may Mr. Jinnah cannot cut himself from his roots.

This Woman Is A Man!

Mother Of Parliaments

A DAY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

By IVOR THOMAS, M. P.

(Concluded From Last Week)

In Britain's Parliament, each House begins its day with prayers. The Speaker then calls the House of Commons together by saying "Order, order", and the House proceeds to any private business. This may be such matters as the announcement of the death of a Member, the issue of a writ for a by-election, or the first and second reading of private Bills, e.g. Bills promoted by local authorities. This does not usually take long, and then Members settle down to an hour of questions.

This hour is regarded by many constitutional students as the greatest of our democratic safeguards. The Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer answer questions every day, and other Ministers have one day a week on which they have to be in their place to answer.

The questions are handed in to the Clerk at least 48 hours before they are due for answer and are printed on the Order Paper for the appropriate day. The Minister prepares his answer with the help of the Civil servants in his department.

An Answer A Minute

After private business, the Speaker calls out the name of the Member with the first question on the Order Paper, and he rises and says, "Question No. 1, Sir." The Minister reads out the reply. and then the Member is entitled to put without notice a supplementary question arising out of the answer, to which the Minister will again reply.

After this, any Member who "catches the Speaker's eye" may put a further supplementary question until the subject is exhausted, or the Speaker feels questioning has gone far enough, when he calls out the name of the person with the second question on the Order Paper. This goes on until the hour is reached. About 60 questions are usually answered in the hour, and if there are any left unanswered, or if Members could not be in their place to put their questions, the answers are sent in writing and printed in the Official Report. (Every work spoken is taken down in shorthand and printed in the Official Report). In this case no supplementary questions are possible. Questions may also be sent in for written rather than oral answer, and this is advisable in the case of questions asking for elaborate statistics.

The art of questioning and answering, especially at the supplementary stage, is one of the greatest parliamentary attainments. It is not easily acquired. There are certain limits, such as defence secrets, on the questions which the Clerks are allowed to accept under the Speaker's authority, but the limits are very wide.

The Minister is not bound to answer, at least not in the way the questioner would like, but if he refused to answer for any reason except the public interest his position would soon be untenable.

At the end of the hour of questions, Ministers may make brief statements on any subject of immediate importance, and it is also at this stage that new Members take the oath and their seat. The Speaker then says, "The Clerk will now proceed to read the Orders of the Day." The Orders of the Day are the items of public business which must be disposed of before the House adjourns for the day. Many of them will be disposed of by postponing them to "another day." But one or more will have been selected by prearrangement for debate, and the debate begins.

Duties Of The Whips

The arranging of business is done through "the usual channels", as the Whips are called. All parties have their Whips, and it is the duty of these officers to keep in touch with the feelings of their followers and make arrangements for the public business in accordance with the general wish of the House. Of course, it is not possible to satisfy everybody, and it is the duty of the Whips to see, not only that the majority are satisfied, but that minority views are respected.

The public business may be a stage in the passage of a Bill, or it may be a debate on a motion put on the Order Paper by a group of Members, or it may be on the adjournment to allow a wide debate on some selected topic. (Technically, any Member called on such occasions could raise any subject, but in practice the selected subject is adhered to; there are two occasions in the year, however, the debate on the King's Speech and the debate on the Consolidated Fund Bill, when Members may "ventilate" any subject they please).

At an hour fixed by Standing Orders (unless the House has otherwise resolved at the opening of public business) the debate automatically comes to an end, the question is put to the House ("that the Bill be read a second time", or whatever it may be) and if it is challenged a "division" may be necessary; a "division" means that the "Ayes" walk into one lobby, and the "Noes" into another, and are counted.

Ventilating Grievances

On most days it is then possible, again by pre-arrangement, to have half an hour's debate on the motion 'that this House do now adjourn" on some subject on which a Member feels aggrieved, and of which he has given notice in the House. The Minister concerned briefly replies. It is a useful means of "ventilating" a grievance quickly. At the end of the half hour the House is automatically adjourned.

In the Lords there are no "questions" in the Commons sense, and after the private business one or more selected topics are debated or Bills advanced.

The parliamentary session opens in November with a Speech from the Throne indicating the Government's projected programme of legislation. The ensuing debate gives Members a chance to say what they feel about it. Bills to give effect to the King's Speech are introduced from time to time and from February onwards the House is bound to devote annually much of its time to financial business and "supply". It rises in August for the Long Recess. Such recesses are essential if the Government, with the help of the Civil Service, is to prepare legislation for Parliament, and also if Members are to sustain that close touch with their constituents and that reading of parliamentary papers which is necessary for the proper discharge of their high duties.

Spirit Of Give And Take

Such, in brief, is the procedure of Parliament. It has evolved over many centuries and has proved itself equal to all needs. But it would not work unless the Members are determined to see that it worked. The fact that the Speaker is able to maintain order effectively is due to the members' resolve to see that this authority is maintained even in the smallest matters. The spirit of faction could destroy the best parliamentary machine.

It is because the Members are not only members of our parties, but "House of Commons men" all united in a desire to advance its intents, that it works so smoothly. They are all jealous of its privileges, and feeling quickly rises against a Minister or other Member who is thought to be talking to the Press and not to the House. The chief quality of the "House of Commons men" is a spirit of give and take. They live by compromise. The majority do not try to crush minorities, and minorities, when they have failed to carry their points of view, loyally accept the decision of the majority.

The Potter

—*Irwin.*

For in the market-place, one Dusk of Day
I watched the Potter thumping his wet clay.
And with its all obliterated tongue
It murmur'd—"Gently, Brother, gently pray!"

—OMAR KHAYYAM

'WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!'

(Continued from Page 2)

has allowed its masses to remain in the blankest ignorance of the real mental life of the human community to which they are supposed to belong. The typical worker in the United States has been an alien underdog or a coloured man, but there is a new generation arising, which reads and thinks and talks and may act with, a novel mass solidarity. That is likely to evoke a disorganising reconstruction of the American political structure that may leave not only England but Europe in the lurch.

And now these dreamers, unaware of the internal stresses accumulating against them, imagine they can from an Anglo-American bloc centred upon Washington that will be able to organise Europe and a resuscitated "Empire" against that awful 'Bolshevisation" that will otherwise—wake them up! And they will threaten that if we do not fall in with this preposterous suggestion, "Americans" in high dudgeon will revert to isolation, fearsome word, they will do awful financial things with their great gold hoard and make a mess of everything. But can they now? Can they really pinch off the Western hemisphere now and go off with it into space as a separate planet, destroying the old world by the vast tidal waves their indignant departure will produce? What nonsense for them to imagine it! The world is one. Slowly, reluctantly, mankind learns that any nation that would save its life in isolation must lose it. The sure way to destroy all that makes England worth while is to make it the martyr spearhead of American "enterprise." Two recent conferences, of Mr. Eden at Moscow and Mr. Churchill at Teheran, witness to the gradual awakening of the Western mind to the idea of socialist world solidarity, and of the East to the practicability and benefit of absolute free expression for scientific and constructive thought.

The common people are waking up everywhere, because they realise the house of human security is ablaze and its official guardians inert. I doubt if these unteachables can help much with the conflagration, but I think it is high time they got out of the way of the new forces that seek to remodel mankind. One conspicuous sleeper awakes. We have no Willkie in this country, but there in America you have someone who seems to have thought about human affairs as one whole, sufficiently to help. It is time to repeat again, "Workers of the world unite' (and not least among them the intellectual workers), "You have nothing to lose but"—the owners and rulers who have brought our world to the stupendous disaster of to-day. The mills of God no longer grind slowly; they grind more and more swiftly. There is no time to waste.

—PICTUREPOST

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Russian HARVEST!

HARVEST OF PRISONERS AND GRAIN: Somewhere in Russia... the woman collective farmers in the foreground seem to be taunting the line of German prisoners shown here marching eastwards under guard. As the harvest of German captives rises higher and higher, Russia harvests the grain for its own army. To-day the enemy has been completely pushed out of the Soviet soil.

Marching Back To Poland!

Sturdy Polish girls in the Red Army preparing to march into their beloved homeland on the heels of the vanquished Nazi armies. Here they are shown, "somewhere in Russia", receiving military training.

Ismet Inonu, "Ally Of The Allies" Is

'A Friend Of Peace—But No Pacifist'!

By ALFRED JOACHIM FISCHER

Hebely Ada is one of the paradise-like Prince Islands near Istanbul. There, in a beautiful landscape flourishing in a sub-tropical climate are the summer palaces of the distinguished Turkish families. One of them with red wooden walls has belonged for generations to the family of Ismet Inonu. He spent his childhood summer holidays there with his parents.

His father, Rashitbey was a famous judge from Izmir, who later became a member of the Highest Military Court. His mother belonged to the few women who read and spoke foreign languages long before the abolition of the harem and female slavery.

"Ideal Of The West"

Ankara, the new and modern Turkish capital becomes a dead city in April. Ministries, deputies and the whole Diplomatic Corps leave for Istanbul changing the desert climate of Anatolia for the beauties of the Bosphorus and the comfortable palaces which have housed the Turkish ministries, and the Foreign Embassies for centuries. Every year Ismet Pasa leaves Ankara with the "last train."

As Prime Minister, and then President of State, all the *serails* of the former Ottoman Sultans are at his disposal. But he always preferred the old family estate at Hebely Ada and there I met him for the first time in June, 1937.

One sentry only is the modest guard of honour.... ..

Ataturk once said to a circle of friends "Ismet embodies the ideal of the West which I have striven after, but never fully reached." In fact, he is the most westernised Turk in both outlook and appearance.

Inonu was Ataturk's closest collaborator in the reform of Turkey. But he was never one of Ataturk's private intimates, hating night work and night parties as well as excessive drinking. (Inonu refuses Raki and only drinks light French champagne.)

Ismet is an ideal father and husband and in contrast to Ataturk, never indulged in love affairs.

Consciously, the European President kept some of the oriental traditions, amongst them a kind of hospitality which is unimaginable in Europe. As Prime Minister—and I am sure he has not changed his habits as State President—Ismet met his guests at the lowest step of the high and open staircase, cordially shaking both hands.

Deafness Not Diplomatic

During the intimate dinner which followed the interview and at which only his secretary Bey Vedit was present, Inonu proved an excellent host and his words when I left were not only a polite phrase but sincere: "I hope I have found a true friend."

The "Anatolian dwarf" (so nicknamed by Lord Curzon at the Lausanne Peace Conference in 1922) is genuinely hard of hearing not only for diplomatic reasons as is often suspected. His charm, however, easily overcomes difficulties and misunderstandings.

The only foreign language Inonu learned in his youth was French. When he was over fifty years, he took private lessons in German and before his official visit to London for the coronation, he started with English too. When he first welcomed me he spoke French. Suddenly a broad grin lit up the President's face. "Why are you laughing, Excellency?" I asked. Ismet replied' "You want to force me to speak English, don't you? Well, I don't mind, but you'll have to suffer. My French is without accent, my English is still dreadful." After that the whole interview continued in English and I convinced myself that a man in the fifties can learn and master a new foreign language.

The actual interview took place in the glass covered winter garden, overlooking the President's private swimming pool and his pier for motor and sailing boats. On summer mornings Inonu swims for at least twenty minutes in the open sea before starting work at 7-30 a.m.

Gifted Soldier

The winter garden is filled with Turkish plants, but the whole house is furnished in European style. I did not notice anything of oriental origin except some colourful carpets from Smyrna, his birthplace. Whenever I saw Inonu riding through Ankara he was accompanied by a tame wolf. During the interview it sat without moving at the President's feet.

Ismet is a gifted soldier. After attending the military schools at Sivas and Constantinople, he was trained with the General Staff. When family names were introduced, the Great National Assembly conferred on him the name of Inonu, thus honouring him as the victor in the most important battle in the fight for Anatolian independence. Bu the victor is by no means a worshipper of uniforms and for many years has worn his only for manoeuvres.

Ismet comes from officer circles and he himself has been since 1903 an active officer, but he thinks in terms of cultural and economic reform. He still fights with the old enthusiasm, but to-day his foes are the reactionary diehards and the forces of intellectual retrogression. Ismet, Command-in-Chief in the

(Continued On Page 7)

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